

# THE Hongkong Weekly Press AND China Overland Trade Report.

VOL. XLVI.]

HONGKONG, WEDNESDAY, 24TH NOVEMBER, 1897.

No. 22.

## CONTENTS.

Epitome of the Week, &c. ....	397
Leading Articles:—	
The German Seizure of Kiaochau Bay .....	398
Russian Designs in China and the Pacific .....	398
Russia in Manchuria .....	399
Foreign Newspapers in Japan and the Revised Treaties .....	399
Prince Henry of Orleans and his Schemes .....	400
Hongkong Legislative Council .....	400
Supreme Court .....	440
Hongkong Sanitary Board .....	401
The Official Salaries Question .....	402
Germany and China .....	403
The Gang Robbery in Burd Street .....	404
Tai Foo Club Bicycle Tournament .....	404
The International Cotton Manufacturing Co., Limited... Great Eastern and Caledonian Gold Mining Co., Ltd....	405
Correspondence .....	406
Chinese Progress .....	406
An English Tonkin .....	407
Cabinet Changes in Japan .....	407
Russia and Korea .....	407
Launch of a New Japanese Cruiser .....	407
The Korean Railway .....	407
The Peking Railway and the Carriage of Grain .....	407
Hongkong and Port News.....	408
Commercial .....	409
Shipping .....	412

## MARRIAGES.

On 5th November, 1897, at B.M.'s Consulate, Chefoo, by L. G. Hopkins, Esq., and afterwards at St. Andrew's Church, by the Rev. H. Matthews, FREDERICK WILLIAM, eldest son of the late Captain John GODSIL, of the Chinese Navy, and formerly in H.B.M.'s Navy, to JANE FANNY, eldest daughter of the late Edward Finch OTTAWAY, of the Imperial Maritime Customs Service.

On the 6th November, at Christ Church, Yokohama, by the Rev. E. Champneys Irwine, M.A., CYRIL MONTAGUE, son of the late DAVID BIRNIE, Melbourne, Australia, to MARGARET MARY, younger daughter of the Rev. J. H. DANNAT, Barton-on-Humber, Yorks, and cousin of The Rt. Rev. Henry Evington, Bishop of Kitshiu, Japan.

On the 11th instant, at the Presbyterian Church, Singapore, by the Rev. S. Stephen Walker, M.A., LAWRENCE WEBSTER, Superintendent, Eastern Extension Telegraph Co., Singapore, to JESSIE H. NETER, only daughter of JAMES BENNIE, Glasgow.

On the 20th November, at St. John's Cathedral, by the Rev. R. F. Cobbold, MARY, youngest daughter of Mr. T. CRISPIN, of Falmenth, Cornwall, England, to J. HAND, of the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co., Kowloon.

## DEATHS. \*

At Shanghai, on the 15th November, 1897, WILLIAM FARQUHAR, late Chief Engineer of the steamer *Pakto*, native of Greenock, Scotland, aged 30 years.

At Singapore, on the 19th inst., ROBERT TRESILIAN, Hongkong and Shanghai Bank.

## ARRIVALS OF MAIIS.

The American mail of the 21st October arrived, per P. M. steamer *China*, on the 18th November (28 days); and the French mail of the 22nd October arrived, per M. M. steamer *Salazie*, on the 23rd November (32 days).

## EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

We understand that H.E. Tang Chun Lin Viceroy of the two Kwang, will not wait for his successor to arrive before leaving for his home in To Ling Chow, Hunan, but will leave the office in the charge of H.E. Heu Cheng Wei, Governor of Canton.

Mr. A. E. Hippisley has formally taken over charge of the Imperial Customs at Tientsin, in place of Mr. Aglen, late Acting Commissioner.

A farewell banquet was given at Shanghai on the 17th November to Mr. T. R. Jernigan, the retiring U. S. Consul-General. Mr. E. F. Alford presided.

The Hongkong and Shanghai Bank is reported to have exchanged 3,529,000 silver yen for gold at the Specie Bank at Yokohama on the 13th November.

The *N. C. Daily News* says:—We understand that Sir Claude Macdonald is taking up the Bennertz case so energetically that the Tsungli Yamén have telegraphed instructions to the Viceroy at Nanking to take no further steps in the matter, but to leave the case for decision at Peking.

The Agent of the Messageries Maritimes Cie, at Shanghai has received advices from home to the effect that the French mail will next year be despatched on Tuesday mornings from Shanghai to correspond with the change in the day of departure of the mail steamer made by the P. & O. Company.

Kiaochau Bay, on the south coast of the Shantung Promontory, was taken possession of on the 14th November by the German warships *Kaisar*, *Princess Wilhelm*, and *Arcona*, as satisfaction for the murder of two German priests at Yengtu, in the south-east of the province, on the 1st November. On the German Admiral declaring his intention the Chinese garrison retired and no opposition was offered to the occupation.

*L'Avenir du Tonkin*, in its issue of the 17th November gives statistics of the number of deaths in the civil service in Tonkin and Annam this year. There are 706 civil servants and of these 21 died since the 1st January, thus giving a rate of less than three per cent. For Tonkin this is an exceptionally high figure, but our contemporary points out that the increase was due principally to an unusually high rate of mortality amongst the telegraph overseers in the Upper Mekong.

It has now been decided, says the *Rangoon Gazette*, that the Anglo-Chinese Frontier Commission shall commence its labours during the present open season. Mr. H. Thirkell White, C.I.E., Commissioner of the Mandalay Division, has been appointed to be the British Commissioner, and with him will probably be associated Mr. W. Warry, Adviser on Chinese affairs, and Mr. E. C. S. George, C.I.E., Deputy Commissioner of Myitkyina. The Chinese Commissioner is to be Brigadier General Liu, who is now at Momien.

A few days ago a Chinese, who is a British subject, was arrested at Swatow by the native authorities, but for what alleged offence we are not informed. Anyhow the British Consul failed to obtain the release of the man, and so referred the matter to the British Minister. The result was that Sir Claude Macdonald communicated with the Admiral, who ordered the *Algerine* to be despatched to Swatow from this port, and the *Phoenix* from Hongkong to proceed there also. This decided action had the desired effect, for the arrested man was promptly released by the Chinese authorities at Swatow.—*N. C. Daily News*.

One result of the gold currency, says the *Japan Gazette*, and it is a happy one for those who have deposits, is that the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation are able to announce that in future the interest on fixed deposits will be increased from four to five per cent. for annual deposits; from three and a half to four per cent. for half yearly deposits, and from two and a half to three per cent. for three monthly deposits.

From American papers we learn that Mr. James S. Dodge, of Elkhart, Ind., department Commander of the Grand Army of the Republic, has declined the appointment as Consul at Nagasaki, to succeed Dr. Wm H. Abercrombie, the present Consul, who was appointed as a Republican on the 11th May, 1890. Mr. Dodge gives as his reason business engagements and objections by the Grand Army of the Republic. Dr. Abercrombie is well and popularly known on the Asiatic Coast and it is to be hoped that the refusal of Mr. Dodge will enable him to hold his position.

The *Rangoon Gazette* says:—The wonderful advances made by Japan since the late war with China are brought to notice every day even here in Rangoon. Before very long we shall doubtless have Japanese firms established here, and possibly a Japanese bank. In the match trade, a large one in Burma, Japanese matches sell retail at one anna for ten boxes after paying a five per cent. import duty at the Custom House. English matches one hardly ever sees, whilst Swedish matches of no better quality than Japanese are only obtainable at 1½ annas per packet of ten boxes. A Japanese umbrella bought in the bazaar for Rs. 1.4 was recently shown to us and was a fairly well made looking article, not distinguishable from European make, for which a few years ago, when imports were free, Rs. 4 and Rs. 5 was asked. We are told that Japanese bicycles of good strong make are sent here from the Straits at about half the cost of those imported from Europe and America.

The Vladivostock and Amoor railway is now an accomplished fact, for the first through train from Vladivostock arrived at Khabarovka on the 5th of September. This of course means that the tiresome river trip up the Amoor is now a thing of the past, as also that the interior of East Siberia will be in constant communication with Vladivostock throughout the year and therefore with the outer world. As a gain to Russia, militarily considered, it means that the troops cantoned in the Amoor districts (no inconsiderable number) can be concentrated at Vladivostock and from thence thrown into Korea at a point where but little opposition can be offered by any power. The distance between the two points is about 800 miles, and the line runs through a wonderfully rich country that is being fast settled by European Russian emigrants, assisted by their Government. These emigrants are encouraged to raise cattle and such corps as would be useful to an army in the field. All this has been accomplished without that brag or bluster that some nations consider so necessary when undertaking a great enterprise, and by that blustering they too often alarm and therefore put on their guard those whom it would have been advisable to have kept in ignorance of the importance of the enterprise and its ultimate object.—*Japan Gazette*.

**THE GERMAN SEIZURE OF KIAO-CHAU BAY.**

Germany has for some time past been desirous of obtaining a naval station in China and surveys have been conducted along various portions of the coast with a view to making a suitable selection. China, it was believed, would be prepared to make the necessary concession, provided the locality selected was such as would not too seriously wound native susceptibilities. The murder of two German priests in Shantung has, however, afforded Germany an opportunity of promptly taking what she requires by way of reprisal, instead of having to carry on wearisome negotiations in reference to the acquisition of some less desirable site. Kiaochau Bay has according been occupied, and the promptness and energy displayed cannot be too highly applauded. The course adopted stands out in favourable contrast to the supineness displayed by Great Britain in reference to the outrages in the Yangtsze Valley and the Kucheng massacre. It is a reversion to and amplification of the "gunboat policy," which is the only policy that can be really effective in China. According to Reuter the German Press is urging the Government to permanently occupy Kiaochau as a naval base, and we think there can be little doubt the occupation is intended to be permanent. It may, of course, be intended to occupy the place only temporarily as a means of bringing pressure to bear upon China—and such pressure would be severely felt and prove effective in securing compliance with whatever demands might be put forward—but we cordially hope the permanent concession of Kiaochau will be the satisfaction insisted upon for the outrage that has been perpetrated.

Kiaochau Bay is situated on the south coast of the Shantung promontory in lat. 36° N. and long. 120° E. The bay is a magnificent sheet of water at the head of which stands the city of the same name. After the taking of Port Arthur and Waihaiwei by the Japanese it was in contemplation by the Chinese Government to create another great naval arsenal at Kiaochau, and the port was also one of those which Russia was to be allowed to make use of under the celebrated Cassini secret treaty. The treaty, after according permission to Russia to use Port Arthur, went on to say:—"If, however, in order to avoid complications with other Powers it be deemed inadvisable to use Port Arthur as stated, then Russia shall be permitted to use the harbour of Kiaochau Bay, in Shantung Province; there Russia shall be at liberty to enter or leave the harbour at will; to canton her troops; and she shall also be allowed to build barracks for her land troops and coal sheds, etc., in order to fill an urgent want on the part of Russia." What Russia will say to Germany's annexation of the port remains to be seen, but very possibly there may be an understanding between the two Powers on the subject.

William Farquhar, chief engineer of the C. N. steamer *Pakhoi*, committed suicide on board that vessel at Shanghai on the 15th November by shooting himself through the heart with a revolver. At the inquest no motive for the act was discovered, and the deceased when seen shortly before appeared to be in good spirits. Dr. Burge, however, testified that on the previous day deceased had told him that he could not sleep or eat, and witness prescribed a sleeping draught and tonic. The verdict was that the deceased came to his death by a bullet wound caused by himself whilst in a state of unsound mind.

**RUSSIAN DESIGNS IN CHINA AND THE PACIFIC.**

Following on the public announcement to the world of the agreement of alliance between France and Russia, there has been a perceptible forward move in several directions by Russia. It would seem as though, now that the alliance stands confessed instead of being, as before, under the rose, the Russian Government had resolved to make all the profit possible therefrom. Having admitted the existence of the alliance they now feel free to use the dual power for all that it is capable of or worth. False modesty will not stand in the way of Russia using her giant's strength like a giant. At the same time she is not desirous to break the peace; she only aims at bringing overwhelming pressure to bear to compel consent to her demands, submission to her wishes, expressed or implied. There is, perhaps, to be no actual threat even, only the overshadowing menace of her vast power backed by the formidable resources of her republican ally. To many Powers the intimation of the wishes of the Russian Government will be all sufficient. For instance, it is not likely that Turkey will make any serious resistance to the demand by Russia for the payment of the arrears of the Russo-Turkish war indemnity, if that is insisted upon, or to the abandonment of any idea, if already incubated, for the reconstruction of the Turkish fleet out of the Greek war indemnity. If Russia decrees, in effect, that the Porte shall not have a fleet in the Bosphorus, no new warships will be built by the SULTAN. If any of the Balkan Kingdoms should, in the future, appear to be gaining too much prominence, the CZAR will but need to hold up his hand, and the fledgling Power will subside into its normal insignificance. If in some out-of-the-way corner of Asia Russia requires a foothold there is none to say her nay, unless by an agreement of the Western Powers. And how can an agreement be arrived at when France is pledged to assist Muscovite policy and Germany makes bids for the Czar's support?

For the moment, having seen Greece crippled and being in a position to checkmate any movement on the part of Turkey, Russia is not seemingly inclined to cause any commotion in Europe or to allow France to do so. It is stated, we know not with what measure of truth, that Russia has laid an embargo on all attempts by France to embarrass England in Egypt. At the same time she is negotiating a new commercial treaty with England for the encouragement of trade between the two countries. Of late years the Northern Colossus has taken an increased interest in the expansion of its trade, and it is not, therefore, altogether surprising that it should be desirous of retaining good commercial relations with the greatest trading country in the world. The total value of the Russian exports to the United Kingdom in 1895 was £24,736,919 and that of the imports from the United Kingdom £7,664,537. These figures will suffice to show the enormous volume of the trade between Russia and Great Britain. Russia has become alive to the fact, and she is anxious to develop this valuable trade. Russian statesmen are probably also aware that, almost by a stroke of the pen, the major portion of this vast trade might be cut off. The corn now imported from Russia might in a very short period be made up by increased imports from Canada, India, and the United States. Since it has become the object of the Russian Govern-

ment to promote the growth of the country in riches and power by pacific means, they will be anxious not to quarrel with their best customer merely for an idea. The increase of international commerce is rapidly becoming one of the great guarantees for the maintenance of peace. The CZAR is no doubt a highly appreciative spectator of the good work done by England in Egypt, not very dissimilar from that effected by Russia in Central Asia, and it is quite conceivable that his Government would object to have Great Britain harassed in that work by European intervention. If at the same time more extended commercial relations could be established with Great Britain so much the better. Russia usually selects the favourable time for all steps.

While, however, in other parts nearer home Russia may object to play the French game of attempting to twist the Lion's tail, she is not averse to making profit out of the Dual Alliance in the Far East. Her Representative at Peking is reported to be engaged in conspiring with the French Minister to undermine British influence in China and to rob Great Britain of the paramount position to which her trade entitles her in the administration of the Imperial Maritime Customs. To what lengths these diplomats have gone in this game it is of course difficult to say. It will be the business of Great Britain—in which she should receive the cordial support of Germany and the other Powers interested—to prevent the Franco-Russian alliance establishing a dominant influence at Peking. This may prove no easy task when the Trans-Siberian Railway is completed, but having regard to the purely selfish commercial policy pursued by Russia and France, who endeavour, by the erection of a tariff wall, to exclude other nations from any market opened by them, it would be madness to allow them to carry on their schemes without either securing equal advantages or by neutralising what they accomplish. In Korea Russian influence is equally active, being directed towards the eviction of Japan and of Japanese trade. Meantime the Russian squadron has been raised into a formidable fleet, and it is stated by a Hanoi contemporary that negotiations are in progress for the cession of Kebao as a coaling station on the Tonkin coast to Russia. If the French are foolish enough to allow Russia to acquire a footing in Indo-China, that is their concern, not ours. But it points at least to a determination on the part of Russia to become supreme in Pacific waters. If the French are content to allow this and to help their dear Bear to secure the honey he covets, perhaps Great Britain and Japan may have something to say in the matter. If Russia increases her naval force in Eastern Asia, Great Britain can with facility follow her example; it is a game two can play at, and the winner may well be the holder of the longest purse. Japan is also determined to have a strong navy, and is now rapidly acquiring it. Already she owns the two largest battleships in Asia, and has a numerous fleet of cruisers, with harbours, docks, and arsenals where they can equip. Russia will therefore not have it all her own way, nor will she long retain a monopoly of the game of bluff, by which she has hitherto won so many advantages. The danger always is that this game may one day be pushed too far, without any safe way of dignified retreat being left open to the bungler.

The Shanghai A.D.C. intend to produce Donizetti's "Daughter of the Regiment" next month.

**RUSSIA IN MANCHURIA.**

The announcement made by Reuter, that one of the steamers of the Russian Volunteer Fleet has left Odessa with a force of Cossacks on board for the protection of the railway works in Manchuria, is significant though not quite unexpected. It was, if we remember rightly, stipulated at the time the agreement for the construction of the railway was signed that a body of Russian troops should be stationed in Manchuria for the protection of the works. None the less their arrival on Manchurian soil will be the sure precursor of the ultimate loss of that valuable dependency to China. The Peking Government may think that they will be able, at the appointed time, to buy their great neighbour out, but they will not. Within the decade the Russian power will be firmly established on the Pacific, and Peking as a capital may even have ceased to exist. There is nothing to prevent the break up of the Chinese Empire but the mutual jealousy of the Western Powers, and through the rotteness of the Chinese administration and the impossibility of otherwise opening up the country the differences of the Powers may be composed and the eighteen provinces partitioned. This consummation is certainly not generally desired, but it would be regarded as a preferable alternative to seeing the unwieldy Empire fall under the influence of one, and that the least progressive, of the civilised Powers. The fact is already being gradually recognised, and the descent of the eagles has even now commenced. Germany has occupied Kiaochau Bay as a naval harbour, in reprisal for the murder of two German priests in Shantung. She will of course also demand the punishment of the assassins, but knowing, by oft repeated experience in missionary troubles, the utter hopelessness of obtaining justice on the promoters of these outrages, she has determined to inflict punishment on the authorities in a direct manner, and show that such atrocities cannot be perpetrated with impunity. The London *Times* is evidently coming round to the same view of the question, as Reuter tells us the great English journal applauds Germany's energy in dealing with China and urges that Great Britain should always act in a similar manner. The British Government has in the past shown a long-suffering with China as remarkable as it was useless, for generosity and forbearance are entirely thrown away on the Chinese mandarin, who only understands the argument of the stick. The horrible massacres at Kucheng and the murders and riots in the Yangtsze Valley have all been passed over without any reparation being exacted and it would be idle even to pretend that justice had been executed on the criminals. A few coolies have been shortened by a head, but where heads are so easily purchased and evidence so readily manufactured it is worse than folly to permit such travesties on justice to be perpetrated. The only way is to make the Government responsible, and, as in the present case with Germany, to take some substantial guarantee for better behaviour in the future.

The man who was charged with having administered a drug to a gardener and his wife at Yaumati on the 19th October, and who was committed for trial at the Criminal Sessions, was again brought before Hon. H. E. Wodehouse, Police Magistrate, on 19th Nov., the Attorney-General having referred the case back. No further evidence being forthcoming, the prisoner was discharged.

**FOREIGN NEWSPAPERS IN JAPAN AND THE REVISED TREATIES.**

An acrimonious controversy has recently been going on in the columns of the *Japan Gazette* and the *Japan Mail* with reference to the position of foreign newspaper enterprise in Japan upon the coming into force of the revised treaties. In the treaties no special reference is made to newspapers, and under the existing press law only Japanese subjects may publish newspapers. At present the publication of foreign newspapers is legalised under the law of exterritoriality, and the question is whether, upon the withdrawal of that law, the provision of the national law restricting publication to Japanese subjects will entail the discontinuance of newspapers published by foreigners. As the matter stands, unless the foreign Governments insist upon newspaper publication being recognised as a branch of ordinary business covered by the general provisions of the treaty, that would necessarily be the case, and if foreign Governments do so insist an alteration of the national press law would be required in order to bring it into conformity with that reading of the treaties. The *Japan Mail* maintains that newspaper enterprise is not covered by the treaties, but that there is no cause for anxiety, as an alteration of the press law will undoubtedly be made, the existing law being framed to meet existing conditions only. The *Japan Gazette* on the other hand maintains that there is grave cause for anxiety and claims that the rights of foreign newspaper proprietors should be protected by an authoritative declaration that they are covered by the treaties.

Many years ago it was decided that it would be undesirable that foreigners, who were not subject to the national law, should engage in the publication of vernacular newspapers, and the foreign Governments fell in with that view. It was consequently enacted that only Japanese subjects should be allowed to publish newspapers, i.e., vernacular newspapers, in Japan, and as regards foreigners effect was given to that law by regulations issued by their own authorities, in the absence of which the law would of course not have been binding upon them. Recently the press law was re-enacted with amendments, the object being to secure greater freedom to the press by removing the power possessed by the Government of arbitrary suspension, etc., and to provide that all press offences should be tried by the courts of law. But in the new Act the previously existing restriction of the right of publication to Japanese subjects was re-enacted, and it is this re-enactment that has specially attracted the attention of foreign journalists and brought the subject to the front. The *Japan Mail* argues that the restriction is a necessity so long as the existing conditions continue, that is, until the new treaties come into operation in 1899. That argument may be admitted, for the same objections to the publication of vernacular newspapers by foreigners, who would be free from the legal obligations resting upon native publishers, apply now as formerly. But our contemporary also argues that the re-enactment does not imply any intention on the part of the Government to interfere with foreign newspaper enterprise, and suggests that when exterritoriality comes to an end the necessary steps will as a matter of course be taken to accord foreign journalists national treatment. That also may be correct, but if it is to be a question of sufferance and not of right the point is involved in sufficient doubt to justify anxiety on the part of those interested, for in matters of law strict interpretation

has to be adopted and intentions count for nothing. Possibly, if the matter were left entirely to the discretion of the Japanese Government, without any representation being made by the British or any other foreign Government, everything might be arranged satisfactorily, but it is equally possible that grave difficulties might ensue. If the Japanese Government does not wish or intend to interfere with the publication of foreign newspapers when the publishers become subject to Japanese law we fail to see what objection it could have to making a binding declaration to that effect at once and accepting a reading of the treaties that would include newspaper enterprise in the terms relating to business in general. The desire of foreign journalists in Japan (or some of them) to have their position defined seems a reasonable one, and it is difficult to understand why the expression of the desire should excite the ire of the *Japan Mail*. The *Japan Gazette* urges that the continuance of foreign newspapers in Japan should not depend upon the sufferance of the Japanese Government, but should be regarded as a matter of right—that a British subject in Japan should have the same right to publish a newspaper there that a Japanese subject has to publish a newspaper in England.

If it be decided that the treaty does not cover newspaper enterprise questions might equally be raised with respect to other forms of enterprise not specifically mentioned. This point is suggested by the *Kobe Chronicle* in an article reviewing the position taken up by the *Mail* and we present it in the *Chronicle's* own words:—The contention of our contemporary amounts to this—that unless a trade, business, or profession is specifically mentioned in the Treaties, foreigners will hereafter pursue such avocation merely on sufferance, and its pursuit may at any time be declared illegal. Such is our contemporary's reading of a Treaty which commences by the declaration that it is "based upon principles of "equity and mutual benefit." That such an interpretation is wholly without warrant goes almost without saying. Article III. of the Anglo-Japanese Treaty provides that "there shall be reciprocal freedom of commerce and navigation between the dominions and possessions of the two High Contracting Parties," and goes on:—"The subjects of each of the High Contracting Parties may trade in any part of the dominions and possessions of the other by wholesale or retail in all kinds of produce, manufactures, and merchandise of lawful commerce, either in person or by agents, singly, or in partnerships with foreigners or native subjects; and they may there own or hire and occupy the houses, factories, warehouses, shops, and premises which may be necessary for them, and lease land for residential and commercial purposes, conforming themselves to the Laws, Police, and Customs Regulations of the country like native subjects." Newspaper business is not specifically mentioned in the article—it would be remarkable if it was—but neither is banking business so mentioned, nor can the latter, any more than the former, be brought strictly under the phrase "produce, manufactures, and merchandise;" yet will it be argued by the *Japan Mail* that all foreign banks must close their doors when the new Treaties come into force, or, if permitted to do business, exist only by sufferance? Such an argument is at once seen to be preposterous; but if preposterous in the case of banking business, why not also as regards the business of gathering news and conveying it to subscribers?

[November 24, 1897.]

**PRINCE HENRY OF ORLEANS AND HIS SCHEMES.**

The news supplied by Reuter to the effect that Prince HENRY of Orleans is preparing an expedition, including a corps of Haussa veterans from the West Coast of Africa, with the object of assisting M. LEONTIEFF to forestall General Sir HERBERT KITCHENER in the occupation of Khartoum, &c., is interesting and may prove important. According to this statement, a French Prince (not recognised by the French Government) is to be allowed to fit out a filibustering expedition at Marseilles against a country with which France has friendly relations, and, in conjunction with another filibuster of the name of LEONTIEFF, will lead the Abyssinians to Khartoum to prevent the Egyptians recovering possession of that place. He is of course welcome to try, but we trust that if the Sirdar comes into collision with this princely popinjay he will treat him as any ordinary filibuster. Prince HENRY is evidently playing to the French gallery. He has taken a leaf out of NAPOLEON III.'s book, and fancies that by pandering to French vanity he may acquire such popularity as would enable him eventually to run for the Presidential chair. After that the rest would be easy to a ruler with a military force behind him. If, however, the French want a King to reign over them they can readily find one possessing better claims and a more interesting personality. The Duc d'ORLEANS, who is at once the direct heir of LOUIS PHILIPPE and the legitimate successor to the French Throne, would no doubt be willing to accept the crown, though it is improbable he would stoop to scheme for it by conspiring or by trading on popular passion. But France has no yearning for either the Monarchy or the Empire, and there is little chance of Prince HENRY's ambition ever being gratified except through some grave mistake of her Republican rulers bringing about a huge disaster and so causing a complete revulsion of national feeling in favour of another form of government. In the meantime there seems some possibility that this pragmatical prince may stir up mischief. He has already succeeded in causing ill feeling in Italy towards France by his indiscreet utterances, and unless he is distinctly disavowed he may be the means of some day involving France in an unpleasant dispute.

**HONGKONG LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.**

A meeting of the Hongkong Legislative Council was held at the Council Chamber on the 22nd November. Present:

His EXCELLENCE the GOVERNOR, Sir WILLIAM ROBINSON, G.C.M.G.

Hon. J. H. STEWART LOCKHART (Colonial Secretary).

Hon. W. M. GOODMAN (Attorney-General).

Hon. R. MURRAY RUMSEY (Harbour Master).

Hon. F. H. MAY, C.M.G. (Captain Superintendent of Police).

Hon. T. SERCOMBE SMITH (Colonial Treasurer).

Hon. R. D. OREMSBY (Director of Public Works).

Hon. C. P. CHATER, C.M.G.

Hon. HO KAI.

Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD.

Hon. E. R. BELLIOS, C.M.G.

Hon. J. J. BELL-IRVING.

Hon. WEI A YUK.

Mr. J. G. T. BUCKLE (Clerk of Councils).

**MINUTES.**

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

**PAPERS.**

The COLONIAL SECRETARY laid on the table the report of the Committee appointed to inquire into applications for increase of the salaries of certain public servants in the colony.

**FINANCE.**

On the motion of the COLONIAL SECRETARY, seconded by the COLONIAL TREASURER, Financial Minutes Nos. 24 and 25 were referred to the Finance Committee, and the report of the Finance Committee No. 10 was adopted.

**WIDOWS' AND ORPHANS' PENSIONS ORDINANCE.**

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—I have the honour to ask permission to add to the Orders of the Day the first reading of a Bill entitled an Ordinance to further amend the Widows' and Orphans' Pensions Ordinance, 1890. It is an Ordinance which affects civil servants only and not the general public and contains only two amendments which the Secretary of State desires to have made.

The COLONIAL TREASURER seconded. Bill read a first time.

**EVICTION ORDINANCE.**

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—I have the honour to move the first reading of a Bill entitled an Ordinance to facilitate the recovery of possession of tenements and premises of small value.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded. Bill read a first time.

**VAGRANTS ORDINANCE.**

Council went into Committee on the Bill entitled an Ordinance to amend the law relating to Vagrants.

No amendment was made and Council resumed.

Bill read a third time and passed.

**ADJOURNMENT.**

The Council adjourned until the 6th December.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE.**

A meeting of the Finance Committee was then held, Hon. J. H. Stewart-Lockhart (Colonial Secretary) presiding.

**KENNEDYTOWN HOSPITAL.**

The first minute was one in which the Governor recommends the Council to vote a sum of \$3,200 to meet certain expenses in connection with the Kennedytown Hospital.

Hon. C. P. CHATER asked what the expenses were.

The CHAIRMAN—Expenses in connection with the upkeep of the Kennedytown Hospital and staff, and also in connection with an epidemic of small-pox which occurred this year and which increased the expenditure beyond the normal amount.

Item recommended.

**INCREASE OF PRISONERS.**

The second minute was one in which the Governor recommends the Council to vote the sum of \$100 in aid of the vote "Meals for Prisoners in Cells," Police Department.

The CHAIRMAN, in explanation, said—The Captain Superintendent of Police reports that the special vote of \$500 is insufficient for this year owing to the greater number of men confined in the police cells during the year.

Item recommended.

**ADJOURNMENT.**

The Committee then adjourned.

**SUPREME COURT.**

18th November.

**CRIMINAL SESSIONS.**

BEFORE SIR JOHN CARRINGTON (CHIEF JUSTICE).

**DISCHARGED.**

On the application of the Attorney-General (Hon. W. M. Goodman) Cheung Hing and Leung I, who were committed for trial on the charge of causing the death of a woman by performing an illegal operation, were discharged by proclamation. A woman named Sui Kwai Lau, committed for arson, was also discharged.

**A GREAT TEMPTATION.**

Lau Un, a cook, pleaded guilty to stealing \$4,850 belonging to his master, a merchant in Queen's Road.

The master left the money in his vest pocket and while he was having a bath the accused entered the room and stole the money.

His Lordship commented upon the carelessness of the master in leaving such a large sum of money in his pocket.

The prisoner was sent to gaol for fifteen months with hard labour.

**ADMINISTERING A DRUG.**

A woman named Chan Tsat was charged with administering a drug to a girl on the 13th October.

The jurymen were:—A Moir, R. S. Phillipot, E. W. A. Lalla, O. F. Ribiero, C. C. Barlow, F. C. A. Hahn, and G. Sachse.

Hon. W. M. Goodman (Attorney-General), instructed by Mr. H. L. Dennys (Crown Solicitor), prosecuted.

The prisoner was found guilty and she was sent to gaol for two years with hard labour.

22nd November.

**IN APPELLATE JURISDICTION.**

BEFORE THE FULL COURT—SIR JOHN CARRINGTON (CHIEF JUSTICE) AND MR. A. G. WISE (PUISNE JUDGE).

TSE LUN, APPELLANT, v. THE HONGKONG AND KOWLOON WHARF AND GODOWN CO., LIMITED, RESPONDENTS.

This was an application for leave to appeal from the judgment of Mr. Justice Wise delivered in the court below on the 2nd November, in an action brought by the appellant against the respondents to recover \$781.76, balance said to be due under a contract to build certain godowns.

Mr. J. J. Francis, Q.C. (instructed by Mr. Bruton, of Messrs. Mounsey and Bruton), appeared for the appellant and Mr. M. W. Slade (instructed by Mr. Hastings, of Messrs. Deacon and Hastings) for the respondents.

Mr. Slade said he had two preliminary objections to make before the motion was proceeded with. In the first place the notice of motion was not in proper form; it merely stated that the application was for leave to appeal on a question of law. Their Lordships had laid down in more than one case recently heard that the grounds of the notice of motion must be stated in the notice, but in the present instance the notice was in general terms asking for leave to appeal on a point of law. The point that it was intended to raise should be mentioned in the notice of motion for the obvious purpose of giving the other side information as to what the point of law was. The points of law that might arise were innumerable and unless the specific point to be raised was stated in the notice of motion it was impossible for the respondents to know what case they had to meet. Their Lordships had decided that in a very recent case in which counsel believed, Mr. Francis appeared on one side and Mr. Robinson on the other, and he remembered his Lordship saying that the ground for the notice of motion must be given. His other point was that the application was out of time. The judgment of the Puisne Judge in the original case was given in the court below on the 2nd November; the original notice of motion was filed on the 9th November, but the application was not made to the Court until the 15th November. The terms of Section 41 of the Summary Court Ordinance were explicit. The Section said—“Any party may within seven days of the date of the judgment apply to the Full Court in its Original Jurisdiction for leave to appeal.” In this case the notice of motion was filed within seven days, but the application was made beyond the seven days. It was impossible to say that the mere filing of the notice of motion could be held to be within the terms of Section 41. In case No. 1,024 of 1893 the Court ruled that a notice of motion was not an application and counsel read the following note made at the time by Mr. Hastings:—“Notice of motion for leave to appeal is not sufficient compliance with the Section. The application must actually be made to the Court within seven days unless the time is extended.” In Jackson v. Preddie the Court decided that application to extend the time must be made to the Court by motion.

In reply Mr. Francis said that in reference to the latter point it had always been held that a notice of motion—which, he submitted, was an application to the Court—was quite sufficient. He was not aware of any other order having been made and unless the contrary was proved by the records of the Court he submitted that their Lordships could not accept a note made by a private practitioner.

The Puisne Judge—I have not got any records myself. If the Full Court has laid down that a notice of motion is not an application—

Mr. Francis said he was not aware of that fact. The solicitor on filing the motion took it to the Registrar or the Judge's clerk, who fixed the day for the hearing. In reply to the first point raised counsel said there was no rule or practice of the Court which required the grounds of the motion to be filed. Quite recently he argued the very same point and when he pointed out to their Lordships the specific provisions in the Section of the Code relating to motions their Lordships agreed that under Section 43 of the Code it would have been in contradiction to the provisions of the Ordinance for the grounds of the application to be stated. Section 43 said—"No motion shall be entertained until the party moving has filed in the Court a written motion paper distinctly stating the terms of the order sought."

The Chief Justice—My recollection on that point is that at the preliminary hearing I suggested to you whether a notice of motion should not set out the grounds and when the hearing came on I at once said that I had thought about the matter and I did not think it necessary to state the grounds.

Their Lordships intimated that they would consider both points and adjourned the case until two o'clock.

On the Court resuming after the adjournment the Chief Justice said—In this case Mr. Slade, on behalf of the respondents, took two objections to the Court entertaining this motion. The first was that the notice of motion was defective in that it did not set forth the points of law upon which leave to appeal was asked. With regard to that I think we indicated in the course of the argument that in our opinion that objection could not prevail. The second objection was that the application was out of time in that it was made on the 15th of November, whereas the judgment of the Court below was pronounced on the 2nd November. Mr. Slade argued that the filing of the notice of motion, which took place on the 9th November, was not an application within the meaning of Section 41 of the Supreme Court Summary Jurisdiction Ordinance, 1873. In support of that contention he referred to a case in this court in the year 1893, and said that in that case the point was ruled in the way that he suggested, that is to say, that the application must be made to the full Court itself and that the filing of the notice of motion was not sufficient. We have referred to the proceedings in that case. It is the case of *Yenng Kam v. Yik Sam Shan and another*. It was number 1,024 of the year 1893 in the Summary Jurisdiction Court. In that case judgment was delivered by Mr. Justice Wise on the 6th October, 1893. The notice of motion for leave to appeal was filed on the 9th October, 1893, and the day fixed for making application to the Full Court on that notice of motion was the 8th November, 1893. On the 8th November, 1893, the motion came before the Full Court, Mr. Pollock appearing for the appellants. In the Chief Justice's notes of the proceedings there is the following note:—"Motion of leave to appeal; time for moving extended until to-day." Mr. Justice Ackroyd's note is to the same effect:—"Time extended to make application till to-day." It will be seen that this was the bringing on of the *ex parte* motion for leave to appeal, and the Court intimated, apparently, that the motion was out of time, but extended the time to make application until that day; that is, the 8th November, 1893. The notes of the learned judges leave it vague as to how that leave to extend the time came to be granted. In order to clear up that uncertainty we referred to the report of the case in the *Daily Press* of the 9th November, and we find there that the Chief Justice stated that "there had been an impression that the filing of a notice of motion was an application within the meaning of the Section 41, but that was an incorrect impression and the practice must be to make application to the Full Court by way of motion within the seven days mentioned in Section 41." Then he proceeded to say that "as that had been the practice of the Court he would on this occasion extend the time for the making of the application until this day so that it might be made on that day," the 8th November,

that is to say, a month after the pronouncement of the judgment. It would seem, therefore, that the ruling of the Court is in point and governs the present case. Of course it was apparently delivered without any argument—without the point being raised or argued—but it is competent for the Court, if it thinks fit, to do so as to the construction to be placed upon any enactment governing a point of practice, and that appears to be what was done in this case. The Court expressed its opinion as to the interpretation to be placed upon the meaning of the words "apply within seven days" contained in Section 41 of the Ordinance. We are inclined to think that we are bound by that interpretation, although, as I said, it was not a matter of argument; but any way we both think that the interpretation is a sound one and that the filing of the notice of motion cannot be taken to be an application within that Section. The application there intended must be by way of *ex parte* motion in the first instance. We therefore think the objection of Mr. Slade is well founded in this case and that the present motion cannot be entertained by the Court.

The Puisne Judge—I should like to say that when I first heard the objection raised by the learned counsel for the respondents I was very much struck with what appeared to be a difference in one notice of motion to apply and the application itself, although, knowing as I do the practice of the Court, if this had been the first case in which the point was raised, I should have been very much inclined to extend the time; but a similar case has been before the Court before and indulgence was granted, but such indulgence cannot be granted a second time.

Mr. Slade—Your Lordships dismiss the motion with costs?

The Chief Justice—Yes.

Mr. Francis—Without prejudice to any application we may make for extension of time?

The Chief Justice—We think that the Court having ruled in that way as recently as 1893 this Court would not be justified in extending the time.

Mr. Francis—May I ask your Lordships to direct an enquiry into what has been done since 1893? I think your Lordships will find that the rule has never been observed.

The Chief Justice—Of course if the ruling has been lost sight of by the Court no doubt the Court is to be reprehended itself.

Mr. Francis—I think it is in your Lordships' power to allow the matter to be re-argued—whether that decision is right or not. An expression of opinion of that nature and under such circumstances was actually given after the Judge who tried the case in the court below had left the colony, and fully a month after the judgment had been given, and it was given entirely without argument.

The Puisne Judge—He was here.

Mr. Francis—Your Lordship might have been here, but there was a change of judges, and that might have been one of the reasons why the question arose. It was not a considered judgment of the Court; it was merely an expression of opinion and one which your Lordships will be entitled to overrule if, after argument, you think—

The Chief Justice—It is more than an expression of opinion; it is a direction to the practitioners in the Court—an intimation that that was the correct practice.

Mr. Francis—if it is not sustainable and if it has not been followed I submit it is certainly open to reconsideration by the Full Court.

The Chief Justice—Well, Mr. Francis, we have considered the point and we agree that the ruling is a sound construction of the Section.

Mr. Francis—May I venture to call your Lordships' attention to the fact that the Full Court has no fixed day for sitting? An application has to be made to the Judges to fix some day for the Court to sit. There is no method provided of making an application of this description except by *ex parte* motion.

The Chief Justice—That may be an inconvenience as a result of the way the enactment is drafted.

Mr. Francis—How is it to be done? A solicitor must go and get a day fixed for the Full Court to sit. The Full Court is not sitting every day of the week. He goes to the Registrar to get a day fixed. Is that an application

to the Court? Practically an officer of the Court fixes the day.

The Chief Justice—The time may be short in making an application that way, but as I said it is only a matter of convenience and cannot govern the construction of the Section. I think on the whole it is a right construction and therefore I do not think there would be any use in letting the point be argued further.

The Court then adjourned.

#### HONGKONG SANITARY BOARD.

A meeting of the Sanitary Board was held at the offices on the 18th November. Dr. Atkinson (Principal Civil Medical Officer) presided and there were also present Hon. F. H. May (Captain Superintendent of Police), Hon. R. D. Ormsby (Director of Public Works), Mr. N. J. Ede, and Mr. H. McCallum (Secretary).

#### MINUTES.

The minutes of the previous ordinary meeting and of the special meeting held last week were read and confirmed.

#### A BY-LAW REPEALED.

The PRESIDENT moved "That by-law No. 4 of the by-laws made by the Sanitary Board under section 13 of Ordinance 15 of 1894 on the 19th March, 1895, and approved by the Legislative Council on the 20th day of March, 1895, and which was published in Government notification No. 11 of 1895, be repealed from the 13th day of November, 1897, being the date of publication in the Gazette of by-law No. 27 made under section 13 of Ordinance 15 of 1894, on the 4th day of November, 1897, and approved by the Legislative Council on the 8th day of November, 1897."

Mr. N. J. EDE seconded the motion, which was carried.

#### PLAQUE IN BOMBAY.

From the 1st to the 19th October, 167 cases of plague were reported in Bombay; 106 of the patients died.

#### GERMANY AND THE VENICE CONVENTION.

A despatch from Mr. P. Hatzfeldt, of the German Embassy, London, to the Marquis of Salisbury was laid on the table. The despatch stated that the Imperial Chargé d'Affaires at Rome had been instructed to announce to the Italian Government the acceptance of Chapter 2 of the Venice Convention, which has reference to plague and traffic in Europe.

#### MORTALITY STATISTICS.

For the week ended 30th October the death rate in the colony was 20.2, as against 19.4 for the corresponding period of last year. For the week ended 6th November the rate was 25.1, as against 20.1 for the corresponding week of last year.

#### FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE AT THE DAIRY FARM.

The following letter was read from Mr. C. Vivian Ladds, the Colonial Veterinary Surgeon:—

"Government Offices,  
18th November, 1897.

Sir—I have the honour to inform you for the information of the Sanitary Board that I received notice this morning of some cases of sickness amongst the cattle at the Dairy Farm Company's premises, Pokfulam, and at once went out there for the purpose of investigating them.

I regret to report that I found several cases of foot and mouth disease in two adjoining sheds and at once gave orders that these sheds be isolated from the remainder.

I further gave instructions to the Manager, Mr. Walker, that no milk must be taken for sale purposes from any cows which are housed in the two infected sheds (this, I found, had already been done), and that all communication with the other sheds upon the same premises be cut off entirely.

I next went to the adjacent Police station and obtained the services of an Indian constable, whom I placed on watch at the Farm to see that my instructions were duly carried out.

I am of opinion that these two sheds should be declared an infected area under Section 2, sub-Section 5, of Ordinance 17 of 1887.

Should no other sheds become infected these measures will suffice, but in the event of the disease breaking out in any of the uninfected ones they will also have to be declared in the infected area.

Under the provisions of the above Ordinance no milk will be allowed to be removed from the infected sheds, so that the milk consumers of the colony need be under no apprehension as to the safety of the milk sent out by the Company.—I have the honour to be, &c.

"C. VIVIAN LADDS.

"The Secretary, Sanitary Board."

The PRESIDENT moved that the two sheds mentioned in the letter be declared an infected area and that the Government be informed of the receipt of the letter.

The CAPTAIN SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE seconded.

Carried.

ADJOURNMENT.

The Board then adjourned until next Thursday.

#### THE OFFICIAL SALARIES QUESTION.

The following report of the Committee appointed to inquire into and report on certain applications for increase of salaries from officers in the public service of the colony was laid before the Legislative Council on the 22nd November:

We, the members of the Committee appointed by His Excellency the Governor "to inquire into and report on certain applications for increase of salary from officers in the public service of this colony," have the honour to submit the following report upon the matters referred to us.

We understood from the terms of the letter of appointment under which we are acting that our principal duty was to consider and deal with the applications individually and on their own merits, and not as affected by any general considerations of policy relating to the pay of officers in the public service. Accordingly, we have read the papers having reference to each case and have carefully considered the reasons put forward by the applicant in support of his application, the report made upon the application by the applicant's superior officers, and any general or special circumstances bearing on the case. The schedule annexed hereto gives the necessary particulars with regard to the offices and salaries of the applicants, and also shows the recommendations which we make in the respective cases.

It does not appear to be necessary to state in detail and in each individual case the reasons which have weighed with us in adopting the conclusions at which we have arrived. It will perhaps be sufficient for us to indicate these reasons in a general way, some of them being more strictly applicable to one case or class of cases and some to another.

A considerable number of the applicants have urged as a reason, and in some cases a principal reason, for their appeal that the cost of living in the colony has greatly increased within the last few years and in particular that house rents have become much higher. Another reason put forward in some cases is that the recent fall in the rate of exchange has seriously affected the pecuniary position of the applicants. We have felt some difficulty in dealing with reasons of this kind. If it were recognized that they were in themselves, without regard to other circumstances, valid and sufficient to justify a recommendation that the salary of the applicant putting them forward should be increased so as to restore his impaired financial position, it is obvious that the same considerations would apply in the case of every officer in the public service. If the salary of a single officer were raised for these reasons, and these reasons alone, it would follow as a matter of justice that the salaries of all other officers should be raised in like manner. But we think these considerations may properly be allowed some weight in certain special circumstances. Take, for instance, the case of a junior officer whose salary was fixed some years ago, when the value of the silver dollar was higher and the cost of living, including house rent, was less, than they are now. His salary at that time was supposed to be adequate to enable him to maintain a standard of respectability suitable to his position. But his salary was small and probably was no more than sufficient for his needs. If this view is correct, it seems to follow that such an officer may be, and probably is, affected by the financial changes to which we are referring to

such a degree that his salary no longer suffices to keep him in comfort and respectability. We are of opinion that an officer so situated may fairly ask the Government to reconsider the question of his salary, and we have accordingly recommended moderate increases of salary in cases which appear to us to fall within this category.

There is another class of cases in which these considerations may also be held to have some force. We refer to the cases of gentlemen with professional qualifications whose services are engaged from the mother country for a limited term of years and who find that, by the operation of the causes to which we have been referring, their appointments are a good deal less valuable than they were when they accepted them. It is perhaps reasonable that such a loss should be made good, at any rate to some extent, and it must also be borne in mind that if such an officer, becoming dissatisfied with the position in which he finds himself, resigns his appointment, the trouble and expense of replacing him are not inconsiderable. We have given effect to these views by recommending increases in the salaries of certain applicants holding offices in the Public Works Department.

In two or three cases we have suggested increases on the score of long and meritorious services rendered by the applicants. In one or two instances our opinion in their favour has been strengthened by the fact that the applicants appear to have been unfortunate in the race for promotion in the service.

In a few instances we have recommended an increase because the salary of the office seems to us to be incommensurate with its duties and responsibilities, or because, as in the case of some of the lower grade offices, the salary is appreciably less than that which is paid in the open market to persons performing similar duties.

In examining the various applications and coming to our conclusions upon them, we have referred to and considered the report and recommendations of the Retrenchment Committee of 1894.

If our suggestions for the augmentation of the salaries of some of the applicants are carried out, in whole or in part, it may perhaps be that the Government will receive applications for increase of salaries from other public officers. But we venture to express the opinion that it would be desirable, in the interests both of the public service and of the community generally, that a rule should be established that such applications will be received and considered only at certain fixed intervals of time, say, one or two years, as may be thought most convenient.

J. W. CARRINGTON,

Chairman

C. P. CHATER.

T. JACKSON.

Hongkong, 5th August, 1897.

#### SCHEDULE OF APPLICATIONS FOR INCREASE OF SALARY.

	Date	Initial sent	Pre- recom- mended	First Sa- lary	Second Sa- lary	Per men- tum	Per sem.	month.	month.
Colonial Secretary's Office:		\$	\$	\$					
J. A. Remedios, 4th Clerk.	9	4	89	60	60				
F. F. Remedios, Clerk	10	7	90	40	40				
Treasury:									
A. Chapman, Assessor	12	8	89	..	300				
Chan A-pui, Clerk to As- sessor	23	11	88	40	40		10		
J. C. de Cunha, 2nd Clerk	16	4	92	110	110				
L. J. Lopes, Assistant Clerk	28	3	94	110	110				
J. P. Silva, 4th Clerk	1	8	87	64	80				
Public Works Department:									
R. F. Drury, Assistant Engineer	1	12	87	150	200		25		
C. C. Malsch, Superinten- dent Crown Lands	1	5	84	190	250		50*		
E. M. Hazelton, Assistant Engineer	1	8	89	30	120		20		
P. Julyan, Clerk	1	1	95	100	100				
J. A. Wheal, Overseer	3	6	95	104	104				
J. Coyle, Overseer	5	11	90	80	80		10		
J. Carroll, Overseer	22	3	87	70	100		10		
Cornelius Grant, Foreman	1	9	86	30	30		10		
Tse-tsan-tai, Clerk	13	5	90	20	45				
Ng-shan, Messenger				6	6		2		
Lo-po, Foreman	1	12	70	6	9		3		
Ip-sau, Survey Coolie				6	6		2		
Educational Department:									
G. H. Bateson Wright, Head Master, Queen's College	28	1	81	200	360				
R. Soonderam, School Master	2	2	80	44	44		6		

Pupil Teachers, Bellios School .....	..	..	\$60 by \$60 yearly to \$240.
Police:			
R. H. Kotewal, Clerk	30	30	10
Supreme Court:			
R. F. Lammert, 1st Clerk	1	190	80 121 1/2 8 1/2
C. J. Xavier, 2nd Clerk	26	0 82	60 100 10
J. Leonard, Assistant Bailiff	..	40	40 10
Attorney General's Office:			
F. H. Kew, Clerk	11	12 94	50 50 10
Harbour Office:			
F. A. Cordeiro, Clerk, Im- ports & Exports Office	1	8 87	60 60 Nil.
Fung-king-fuk, Clerk, Ma- rine Surveyor's Office	21	1 88	40 40 5
Sanitary Department:			
H. McCallum, Secretary	28	7 79	.. 300 25*
Post Office:			
M. A. Pereira, Clerk, Post Office, Shanghai	23	12 82	80 100 10
Observatory:			
F. G. Figg, 1st Assistant	6	6 83	.. 130 30
* Personal and unpensionable.			

#### REPORT BY T. H. WHITEHEAD.

1.—I should be very glad indeed to be able to add my signature to the report dated 5th instant signed by His Honour Sir J. W. Carrington, Kt., C.M.G., the Honourable C. P. Chater, C.M.G., and Mr. T. Jackson, as I fully believe the applicants in question for an increase of salary are fully deserving thereof and are in reality underpaid, but I am still of the opinion expressed in my letter of 15th ultimo to the Chairman, copy of which is annexed, that the Committee has imposed on it the duty of taking into consideration in addition to the claims of the applicants the financial position of the colony and its ability to bear the increased charges proposed, and that unless satisfied on the latter point I would not be justified in recommending increases of salaries and allowances, no matter how strong the claims of individuals may be.

2.—I entertain grave doubts *in re* the financial position of the colony and its ability without increased taxation to meet any addition to the present expenditure. I find that as recently as in 1895 (see Sir Wm. Robinson's despatch of the 12th July and the Secretary of State's reply of the 3rd September of that year as per copy annexed\*) several members of the Public Works Department were strongly recommended for increases of salary by the former Director of Public Works, Mr. Cooper, and that the Governor fully concurred in these recommendations, yet that he with the full approval of Mr. Chamberlain refused to grant the proposed additions on the ground that the circumstances of the colony did not justify the additional expenditure. If this was true in 1895 and if the Governor and the Secretary of State felt themselves justified in refusing well-merited augmentations of salary because of the financial position then, what is to be said of the present position? I respectfully submit that the colony is now worse off than it was in 1895.

3.—The cost of the administration for 1887-1896 as shown in the following official statement was:

Year.	Personal Emolu- ments.	Excom- pensation.	Other Charges.	Total.
	\$ c.	\$ c.	\$ c.	\$ c.
1887	571,767 29	..	231,726 24	41,987 41 841,480 94
1888	577,503 07	..	31,182 1	48,412 68 937,400 80
1889	629,966 75	..	331,070 10	55,613 75 1,015,680 00
1890	675,228 27	..	305,610 90	51,619 31 1,035,468 48
1891	720,281 80	..	352,169 81	52,451 24 1,124,902 65
1892	794,110 73	..	333,716 72	67,056 51 1,244,993 99
1893	725,235 44	..	361,407 46	86,7 6,79 1,178,352 69
1894	742,197 03	22,578 21	401,7 0,05	100,077 28 1,266,842 63
1895	721,573 1	1,9,404 55	419,8 0,02	112,776 97 1,366,181 61
1896	746,617 41	7,369 90	456,6 3 85	118,054 71 1,291,675 57

It will be observed that the expenditure, including pensions, exchange compensation and other charges, has been continually and yearly on the increase ever since 1887. It has grown excessive and out of all proportion to the increase in the population during the same period.

The increase in the expenditure in 1896 as compared with 1887 is upwards of 64 per cent., whereas the increase in the population during the same period is about 27 per cent., and the increase in the rateable value of property is 32 per cent.

4.—The colony's gold payments are annually increasing in amount and the rate of exchange (in other words, the gold price of silver) is continually falling, and no one knows the limit to

\* Not printed.

which it may descend. The ratepayers have now to face the prospect, however unpleasant, of very heavy and most serious losses forced upon the colony by the perversity of the Colonial Government, in spite of the strenuous opposition of the majority of the unofficial members of the Legislative Council, borrowing in gold instead of in silver, the latter being the currency in which the revenue of the colony is raised.

5.—The Imperial Government annexes 17 per cent. of the colony's total gross revenue, excluding land sales, as a Military Contribution, which is an arbitrary and a most unfair exaction and one which is considerably larger and heavier than any other colony in Her Majesty's dominions is required to pay. So far, the Imperial Government has given no sufficient reason for refusing to extend to this colony the same fair treatment in respect of Military Contribution as the sister colony at Singapore receives. Hongkong will also, no doubt, be required to contribute towards the cost of new barracks including the Mount Austin Hotel and the palatial quarters it contains, as well as for alterations of the forts for improved ordnance.

6.—The Home Government recently proposed to further exact a large increase in the colony's contribution towards the Imperial mail subsidy which, if carried out, would be unreasonable and manifestly unjust.

7.—I much regret my inability at present to recommend any increase of the expenditure, believing as I conscientiously do that the circumstances and the financial position and prospects of the colony are not such as to justify any addition thereto and as same has, in my opinion, largely outgrown the requirements of the colony and is a far greater burden than the ratepayers ought to be called upon to bear.

T H. WHITEHEAD.

Hongkong, 9th August. 1897.

## GERMANY AND CHINA.

### ANNEXATION OF KIAOCHOW BAY.

SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE "DAILY PRESS."

SHANGHAI, 17th November.

It is reported that the German fleet has taken possession of Kiaochow Bay as a naval station and in reprisal for the murder of German priests in Shantung.

Shanghai, 17th November.

Startling rumours of German occupation of various parts of the coast of China, ranging in popular report from Tongtun, the port north of Foochow where the Germans have recently been surveying, to Kiaochow Bay in Shantung, greatly exercised the public mind in Shanghai to-day, and set flying all sorts of speculations of an uneasy and uncanny kind. It was known that Messrs. Siemssen's steamer *Loongmoon* cleared the other day from this port, ostensibly for Japan, but in reality for a destination which was kept a secret. Upon her return to-day it leaked out that she had not been to Japan at all, but had been carrying despatches connected with important military and naval operations, and that her destination had been an unopened harbour in the North. It was very difficult to learn where she had been, or what she had done, or what her mission was; but we are glad to say we are in a position to give reliable information of her movements. These synchronise and coincide with the reports that the three German warships, *Kaiser* (flagship), *Prinzess Wilhelm*, and *Arcona*, which left Shanghai last week for the North, proceeded to Kiaochow Bay, that admirable harbour in the south-east of Shantung. Their mission is in close connection with the recent brutal massacre of two Roman Catholic members of Bishop Anser's Mission in Meridianal Shantung. We congratulate the German Government upon the very proper step it has taken in this matter, which will redound to the advantage not only of every missionary and foreigner of whatever nationality, whose calling or duties takes them into the interior of China, and places them in the hands of such fanatical, foreign-hating ruffians as Li Ping-heng, the ex-Governor of Shantung, who has recently been promoted to the Viceroyalty of Szechuen. It was given out at the time of the murder of the two

Roman Catholic Missionaries in Yengtu, Shantung, that they had fallen victims to a gang of bandits; but private information has reached us, upon which we rely, that these so-called bandits were acting upon the nod, which is as good as a wink to a blind horse, given by Li Ping-heng before his departure from Shantung, *en route* for Chengtu, the capital of Szechuen, as a parting shot at his hated enemies, the "foreign devils." This view, we believe, is also taken by the German Government, whose able and fearless Minister, Baron von Heyking, took the matter of the massacre into such urgent consideration that he cut short his visit to the Yangtsze, which was of the highest importance, and hastened back to Peking last week by the steamer *Chungking*, arriving probably at the capital yesterday. But the instructions for this decisive action from the Berlin Foreign Office were very likely awaiting him on his arrival. A formidable naval force has been landed at Kiaochau from the German warships, and is in cantonments and in the Chinese forts at the present moment, waiting instructions from the German Admiralty and the Minister in Peking. Such a strong step will strike terror into the anti-foreign mandarins of whom Li Ping-heng is the very embodiment, and we again congratulate our German friends upon the blow which they have struck for the freedom of foreign residents in China, and the upholding of the Treaties, which other nations much more interested than Germany, have too often allowed the Chinese to break with impunity.

What happened, we believe, is this: On Sunday morning the three German warships—*Kaiser*, flagship, with the Admiral on board, the *Prinzess Wilhelm* and *Arcona* entered the bay, and the Admiral sent word on shore to the General commanding the garrison, who held three forts, one on the south point, one in the middle, and one in the northern peninsula, that he had come to obtain satisfaction for the murder of the two German Missionaries of Bishop Anser's Roman Catholic Mission, which took place on the 1st inst. at Yengtu, in the South-east of the province, and that he intended landing a strong party of men and occupying the forts. The Chinese General in command sent back an evasive answer, and tried to refer the matter to Peking, saying he had nothing to do with it. The Admiral returned a peremptory reply, saying he was landing his men in three hours, and would use force to carry out his orders, giving the Chinese garrison that time to evacuate the forts. One of the forts is armed with three old 6-inch guns, the other two with weapons of a more obsolete pattern. The rabble soldiery were composed of the usual coolie warriors, who were scared out of their wits when they saw the foreign devils' ships make ominous preparations for business by running out their guns and lowering yards, while the boats were swung out, in readiness for landing men. In an hour's time those on board the German warships could plainly see that the "garrison" was on the move, having discovered urgent business elsewhere, and hundreds of *braves* were seen hurrying over the low hills, bearing their beds, bundles, birdcages and the usual pomp and paraphernalia of Chinese war far out of harm's way. Recognizing that the German Admiral meant business the cautious and astute Chinese General sent word on board the flagship that he "yielded to superior force" and meekly bowed his valiant head to the inevitable. He begged to place his life and those of his wives and numerous family under German protection and was ready to obey the honoured commands of the German Admiral! Then about twenty boats from the German ships were lowered and some 600 men with six guns were landed without the slightest opposition and in admirable order at three points, each division marching straight to the nearest fort, which they found tenantless. The Chinese flags were promptly hauled down and the German ensign run up to the top of the flagstaff, whereupon the three warships fired a salute. There was no confusion whatever and the few country people in the neighbourhood quickly recognized what had happened, and after they had recovered from their first phlegmatic surprise accepted the situation, while many of the warriors, with their martial attire replaced by the usual blue garb of the

peasants, stole back to see if they could not get a "little chance" to turn an honest few cash from their new masters.

The steamer *Loongmoon*, which had gone up with despatches from Shanghai, entered the harbour on Monday morning, only to find everything perfectly peaceful. She returned here to-day and leaves again to-morrow, with stores, food, stoves, cooking utensils, etc., and everything necessary for a prolonged occupation of Kiaochau by a large number of men. The German gunboat *Cormoran* is also to leave here to-morrow for the scene of this highly interesting assertion of Germany's intention to assert the right of her people to live and do their life work under the treaties which she has solemnly and honestly made with China, who evidently thinks she is safe to play with German lives as she has found she can with British and French. When the Germans will leave Kiaochau is quite another story. We expect to see them there for many a long day, as the excuse for the occupation of this most desirable harbour, commanding a country magnificently rich in minerals, is one that may never come again.

Bishop Anser's Mission is a very influential body in Bavaria, which the Berlin Government is particularly anxious to conciliate, and we hope a lasting and severe lesson will be taught to all mandarins of the hateful type of Li Ping-heng before this matter is settled. The Chinese Government had apparently come to the conclusion that it can settle for the massacre of foreign missionaries by the payment of a few thousand taels and the execution of half-a-dozen gaol birds. The Kucheng and Wusueh massacres were settled in a manner which is a disgrace to all concerned, and which has encouraged such gentry as Li Ping-heng in the belief that foreign governments set no store upon the lives of foreign missionaries, or at least, no store that cannot be settled by the execution of a few coolies or the payment of a few thousand taels blood-money. In the present instance they are likely to learn a different lesson, and one which every foreigner will be glad to see administered. No further details are obtainable at the moment, as all the negotiations in the matter apparently have been conducted through Peking from Berlin direct; but we hope at an early date to place our readers in full possession of the highly interesting developments which are likely to arise out of the Shantung Massacre and the German occupation of Kiaochau.

18th November.

The publication of the full details of the German seizure of Kiaochau in these columns last night has created widespread excitement, and there is much speculation as to what is next to occur. We do not expect to receive much more news on the subject this week, as whatever is going on in the way of negotiations between Berlin and Peking is conducted direct by telegraph and will take some time to reach outsiders. We are able to officially confirm the news which we published last night. We are able also to state on the best authority that the German Admiral did not take this decisive step without duly informing the Admirals of the other Powers, at least those of Great Britain, Russia, and France, of what his orders were and of his intention to occupy Kiaochau forts and harbour. All the Admirals were duly notified before-hand. The British Admiral is cruising off the coast of Formosa, but word has been sent to hasten him up north again, and by the time these lines are published he will probably be on his way back. We have good reason to believe that the strong action of the Germans has only been taken after consultation and an exchange of views between the Berlin and St. Petersburg Foreign Offices, and that Germany is acting with Russia's full concurrence. What turn the seizure is likely to take, whether it is the prelude to formal annexation of a slice of Shantung, or is the forerunner of a general division of the territory of helpless China remains to be seen? Many people incline to the latter view and with much reason, but a short time will probably suffice to show us how the great game on the new political chess-board is shaping. It is too soon to form any very strong opinion and we prefer to wait before jumping to any conclusion. But one thing is certain, we believe: Germany means to hang on where she has put herself with Russia's approval. The next news ought

to come from Korea and Japan, with which pregnant question we have reasons to connect Germany's startling move.

Messrs. Siemssen's steamer, the *Loongmoon* (Captain Schultz), was cleared at the Customs to-day for "Nagasaki"! though it was well-known that she is bound for Kiaochan with despatches and stores for the German fleet. She took a large quantity of planks and roofing felt and other building materials, as well as 200 cases of engine oil for the fleet.—*China Gazette*.

#### THE GANG ROBBERY IN BURD STREET.

Three men were arrested near the Man Mo Temple on Tuesday night, 16th Nov., at about 8 o'clock as being connected with the robbery at Burd Street. One has since been identified by the manager of the Kwan Hop Yun, as one of the four who entered his shop on the night of the 15th instant.

Sixmen were on 17th Nov. charged before Hon. H. E. Wodehouse, Police Magistrate, with having committed the robbery and murder at Burd Street on the night of the 15th November. The following are their names and ages:—Iu Ming (24), Wong Chung (34), Wan Shek Ki (23), Wan Shun (30), Chan Ut Ping (23), Li Kan (22); all unemployed.

Li Fong stated he was the manager of the Kwan Hop Yun shop dealing in ginseng, deer horns, cinnamon, and sundries at No. 27, Burd Street. On the 15th instant at about 9.30 p.m., as he was standing at the door, two men went up to him and enquired for one A Ching. He told them there was no person of that name in the shop, but they entered and were followed by two others. He identified the first four defendants as being the men. When the four had entered they pointed revolvers at the fokis, and demanded of him the key of the safe. He told them it was with the accountant, who was in his room at the back. One of the men went into the accountant's room, and witness taking off his shoes slipped upstairs unperceived. On the first floor there was a door communicating with the house in the rear, and he availed himself of the door to pass into the next house and down into the street, where he met a district watchman, to whom he pointed out his shop, and then returned to the house through which he had passed, and remained there till hearing a report of firearms; he went back to his shop to enquire the cause, and was told the robbers had left. Later in the evening a constable brought him to a brothel in Kwai Wa Lane, and taking him into a room where there were three people asked him if he recognised any of them. He said he recognised the whole three, and likewise identified a silver watch found in the possession of one of them, Iu Ming, as belonging to himself.

20th November.

Ng Cheung said he was the accountant of the Kwan Hop Yuen shop, No. 27, Burd Street. On the 15th instant, at about 9.15 p.m., he was standing at the end of the counter, when he saw a man enter the shop and ask for A Ching. This man was followed by several others. Two of them pointed revolvers at witness and demanded the key of the safe. They searched him and found the key at his girdle. The two then took hold of him and forced him into the accountant's room, where one opened a safe and took from it a basket containing some bank notes and silver coins. He put the bank notes into his pocket, while his comrade helped himself to the silver. At the bottom of the safe there were two drawers. From one of them the first robber took a diamond ring, the only thing valuable in it, and from the other a pile of documents, which he placed on a stool and examined carefully. While this was going on, the second man perceived a locked cash box in the safe and asked for the key. He was told by witness that the box had been left in the shop by a friend and there was no key to it. He then took it out and placed it on a board near the counter. Just then, a third robber entered, and called out to one of the first two to go and search the next room. The man who took the cash box therupon left. The other, who had been examining the documents, took a silver watch from the safe, and then turned his attention to the drawer of the counter, which he compelled witness to open. He pocketed all the subsidiary

coins that were in it, but while he was doing that, witness had placed himself between him and the board on which the cash box was placed. This latter he deftly replaced in the safe and closed the door. The robber then left the room followed by witness. The man turned and pointed a revolver at witness and forced him into a charcoal cellar under the stairs of the shop, threatening to kill him if he dared to leave the place. There were two other fokis in the same cellar. Shortly afterwards witness heard a report of firearms outside, and then a policeman's whistle. He ran to the door of the shop and cried out twice. "Thieves: armed attack!" He heard a second report of firearms coming from the eastern direction and saw a crowd running up the street. The shop lost in all \$107, composed of \$75 in bank notes, eleven silver dollars, and \$21 dollars in subsidiary coins; one diamond ring left by a Californian friend who valued it at \$75 gold, and a silver watch (\$24) and chain (\$1.50) belonging to Li Fong, the manager of the shop. No other things were taken away. He recognised the watch and chain shown him in court as being the ones lost, also a silver dollar among the coins produced from its shape and from the chop he had placed on it at the time it was paid in. He recognised very distinctly three of the prisoners, the first (Iu Ming), the second (Wong Chung), and the fourth (Wan Shun). The fourth prisoner had bought a small bottle of medicinal oil a few minutes before he went in with the others. He spoke the Turkgwun-Namtao dialect. The robbers all wore black coats. There were only four people in the shop. The two fokis had already gone to sleep near the counter. Only Li Fong, the manager, and witness were awake and they were preparing to go to bed. There was but one light burning at the time in the shop. That was from a hand lamp on the counter. The light was half turned down. Later in the night he was taken to a brothel in Kwai Wa Lane to identify a watch. He there saw three men taken down the stairs, escorted by some detectives. He told Mr. May at the time he recognised one of the men as among the number who had robbed the shop.

At this point the fifth and sixth prisoners were discharged at the request of the Police, there being no evidence against them.

The two fokis stated that they went to bed at 9 o'clock on the night of the 15th instant and were awakened by some one whom they did not know. They saw several strangers who held revolvers in the shop, and they were ordered to go into the charcoal cellar and remain there. They could not recognise any of the robbers.

District Watchman No. 49 declared that he was on duty in Bonham Strand on the night of the 15th instant when he heard cries of "Thieves," and immediately ran to Burd Street. He saw five men leaving the Hwong Hop Yuen shop and running up the street in an easterly direction. He blew his whistle and gave chase. He had proceeded only a short distance when he heard the report of a firearm. He went on, and when about half way up the street saw a flash, but heard no report. At the end of the street he stumbled against some stones and fell. Just then he heard another report of firearms. He got up and ran along Hillier Street towards Jervois Street, but saw nothing more. He then retraced his steps, and when he got to the Kwan Hop Yuen heard there was a thief in hiding there. He searched the shop but found no one, so he returned to his duty.

The Magistrate said the watchman had given his evidence in a very unsatisfactory manner.

Li Pui, private watchman employed by the Yan Wo Company, Cleverly Street, gave evidence to having chased the robbers, and subsequently finding the body of a man lying in Burd Street near the door of the Kwan Hop Yuen shop.

The case was adjourned.

22nd November.

Lung A Yee, a servant, and Lo A Mui, the mistress of the Tung San brothel, No. 11, Kwai Wa Lane, gave evidence of the arrival of the prisoners in the house a little after midnight on the 15th instant. Shortly after their arrival the police appeared and arrested them.

Lo Cheung, a detective, said he was on duty in Jervois Street on the night of the 15th inst. At about 9.30 o'clock he heard a policeman's

whistle in the direction of Burd Street. He ran and at No. 27, Burd Street learned there had been an armed robbery, but the thieves had already escaped. He discovered a dead body lying in the middle of the street, and he instantly went to the Central Station to report the facts. Inspector Hanson went with him to the scene, and they instituted enquiries and obtained the descriptions of the robbers from the manager of the Kwan Hop Yuen shop. At 11.30 p.m. Mr. May joined them, and witness was then ordered to make a search of the brothels. He took Mr. May to Kwai Wa Lane; Li Fong, the manager of the Kwan Hop Yuen, also accompanied them. They searched nine brothels but without coming across any traces of the thieves. Li Fong and witness then entered No. 11, while Mr. May remained in the Lane. They proceeded to the third floor and in one of the rooms found three men who were instantly recognised by Li Fong. One of the men, upon seeing him, drew out of a pocket a silver watch and transferred it into another pocket. Witness seized the watch and asked Li Fong if it was the one he had lost. Li Fong declared that it was, and went off to fetch the accountant of the shop who, he said, could identify it. Witness then blew his whistle twice, and Mr. May appeared. They arrested the three men, and as they reached the street, they were met by the accountant of the Kwan Hop Yuen shop.

Some further evidence was then taken, and the case was adjourned.

#### TAIKOO CLUB BICYCLE TOURNAMENT.

The Taikoo Club is making commendable progress. The members possess a well situated plot of sporting ground near the sugar works at Quarry Bay and lately they commenced to put the place into thoroughly good working order. The bicycle track has been relaid and on Saturday it was used for the first time for the purposes of racing, and everyone spoke highly of the great improvement which had been effected in the appearance of the track. When the turf the track surrounds is in good condition there will be ample facilities for cricket, football, tennis, and foot racing, and there is doubtless sufficient enterprise amongst the Taikoo Club members to permit of this being done. The bicycle tournament on Saturday, 21st November, was very enjoyable and attracted a considerable number of spectators. The following are the results:

ONE MILE RACE (Handicap).—Two Prizes Start in Saddle.

FIRST HEAT.		
C. Klinck (130 yards)	...	1
A. McKirdy (scratch)	...	2
F. H. Kew (155 yards)	...	0
A. Cameron (225 yards)	...	0

#### SECOND HEAT.

Tso Wing Yun (100 yards)	...	1
J. M. Roza Pereira (250 yards)	...	2
R. Henderson (175 yards)	...	0
J. V. Jorge (225 yards)	...	0

#### FINAL.

C. Klinck	...	1
J. M. Roza Pereira	...	2

Time, 2mins. 48 secs.

ONE MILE RACE, Veterans (Handicap).—One Prize. Start in Saddle.

J. Blake	...	1
A. Rodger	...	2
W. R. Pereira	...	3

THREE MILE RACE (Handicap).—Two Prizes. Start in Saddle.

T. Meek (600 yards)	...	1
A. McKirdy (scratch)	...	2
C. Klinck (390 yards)	...	3

R. Henderson, J. V. Jorge, and T. Shand also ran. Time, 7 mins. 10 secs.

LADIES' RACE. Three Laps (810 yards).

Miss Pereira	...	1
Miss Silva Netto	...	2
Mrs. Guedes	...	3

FIVE MILE RACE (Handicap).—Two Prizes. Start in Saddle.

T. Meek (1,000 yards)	...	1
C. Klinck (650 yards)	...	2
A. McKirdy (scratch)	...	3
J. V. Jorge (1,125 yards)	...	0

**THE INTERNATIONAL COTTON MANUFACTURING CO., LIMITED.**

The third ordinary general meeting of the International Cotton Manufacturing Company, Limited, was held at the Head Office of the Company, Shanghai on the 4th November, Mr. E. A. Probst, Chairman of the Directors, presided. There were also present Messrs. David Brand, James Jones, Edward Davis, Chew Pausan, and Chew Shing-ching (Directors), H. P. Wilkinson (Legal Adviser), G. W. Noel, A. W. Danforth, C. H. Noronha, Lin Chee, Ravnor, Midwood, A. Cushny, George, I. W. Turner, H. J. Limby, G. Pilkington, J. M. Young, W. H. Talbot, etc.

The Chairman, after the notice convening the meeting had been read, said:—Gentlemen, the report and accounts having been in your hands for some days, with your permission, we will take them as read. With regard to the accounts, I will first go through the profit and loss account and make any remarks upon them which I may deem necessary or requiring any explanation. The first are the directors' fees Tls. 5,250 and auditors' fees Tls. 500, all of which are in accordance with the terms of the agreement and of the Articles of Association—leaving a balance of Tls. 30,111.69. On the credit side we have rent of Chinese houses Tls. 905.91. This represents the rent and seems a very small income from our property, which stands in the balance sheet as Tls. 74,153.57. This, of course, is a quite inadequate return, but the reason for it is that the houses have not long been tenanted. This property is proving a most valuable acquisition to the Company, for it enables us to house our operatives, and have them on our own premises. The houses are now fully tenanted, and we may estimate that the rents, which are advisedly very moderate, will nevertheless give a good return on the capital outlay. Transfer fees are Tls. 192.70; Premium on shares Tls. 765. This arises from a premium on a sale of shares, not applied for, that we subsequently sold at a premium. Interest account shows Tls. 568.52. This arises after having apportioned interest appertaining to working account, which leaves a balance of 568.52 to credit of net profits, with balance of working account Tls. 30,111.69. Coming to the liabilities and assets. There are 7,838 fully paid-up shares of Tls. 100 each, Tls. 783,800. We have an overdraft at the bankers of Tls. 367,360.10. I will now deal with the suspense account, which is Tls. 45,452.95, and this item requires some explanation. Of the amount of Tls. 45,452.95 the sum of Tls. 35,000 appertains to items due on capital and expenditure account, namely, building, machinery which will be written off or has been written off already, the balance of some Tls. 10,000 has already been debited to working account in September, but was only paid in October. The sum of Tls. 5,277.21 is due to the American Trading Company for current expenses, etc. The balance of profit and loss account therefore is Tls. 30,111.90. The assets show that buildings and land improvements stand at Tls. 211,920.03; plant and machinery, Tls. 678,827.49; property account, that is, Chinese houses and land, Tls. 74,153.57. This I have already dealt with. Sundry appliances, Tls. 6,711.29, is for plant of a less durable nature, and provision will have to be made to replace it from time to time. Furniture account I need not comment upon. The engine supplies account was Tls. 2,000, electric launch Tls. 40.30. The balance now standing to the debit of preliminary expenses, legal fees, etc., Tls. 4,129.87, we propose to write off as we go along, probably in the course of this year. The fire insurance unexpired is Tls. 1,175.55, the value of the policies to the end of September. The stock of cotton is set down at Tls. 177,668.48, and undelivered yarn—sold, but not delivered—is Tls. 61,265. I have now dealt with the accounts, which show a net profit on the working up to date of Tls. 30,111.69, from which we propose to ask you to sanction the payment of a dividend of 3½ per cent., absorbing Tls. 27,433.00, and to carry forward Tls. 2,677.69. The financial part of our programme I propose to deal with after the adoption of the accounts and I would now only say that considering the short space of time the mill has been in full swing we consider the report and accounts show a very satisfactory and most promising outlook for the

future. If any shareholder has any question to ask, I shall be very glad to answer him to the best of my ability. (Applause.)

Mr. Noel.—With reference to that balance of the working account, can you give the quantity of the yarn purchased and the expense of the cotton.

The Chairman—I think, Mr. Noel, the Directors have come to the conclusion that in showing the result of the working account they considered it inadvisable to put in any details. I can tell you our competitors in Japan, India, and elsewhere would be very glad to have these details given, but we think it inadvisable in the interests of shareholders to publish that information. But while we cannot give the reasons now we shall be very happy to give details to any shareholder if he will apply to the office.

Mr. Noel.—Thank you.

The Chairman—I will now propose. "That the Report and Accounts as now laid before the meeting be accepted and passed."

Mr. Brand—I beg to second that.

Carried.

The Chairman proposed—"That a dividend at the rate of 3½ per cent. for the year ending September, 1897, be paid to Shareholders."

Mr. Davis seconded.

Carried.

Mr. Noel moved—"That Mr. E. A. Probst and Mr. E. Davis be re-elected directors."

J. M. Young seconded.

Carried.

Mr. Danforth moved—"That Messrs. Rufus Eastlack and Thomas Wood be re-elected Auditors."

Mr. Midwood seconded.

Carried.

The Chairman—Gentlemen, I now come to the question of our finances. You will see from the balance sheet that we have an overdraft at our bankers, which is a rather large one, and your directors have come to the conclusion that it would be advisable to place our finances on a more secure footing. The position is this. Our assets represent on capital expenditure, buildings, etc., Tls. 211,920; plant and machinery, Tls. 678,827; property, etc., Tls. 74,153; sundry appliances, Tls. 6,711; furniture, etc., Tls. 3,535; making in all Tls. 975,145. On account of machinery we have still drafts to meet the amount of Tls. 25,000, making a total of Tls. 1,000,145; cost of additional 5,000 spindles and alterations Tls. 50,000, making our total outlay Tls. 1,050,000, against which we have at present a share issue of only Tls. 783,800, leaving a deficit of Tls. 264,200. After due consideration of the subject we find that we can, with but slight alteration to our buildings and slight cost, accommodate another 5,000 spindles, bringing our full working power up to 45,000. The advantage of doing this is obvious, inasmuch as we shall be distributing our fixed charges over a larger output. We have had this scheme in contemplation for some time past, but have deferred its execution on the principle of wishing "to learn to walk before trying to run;" but we consider we are quite safe now in recommending this addition to the mill, which with your approval we will undertake at once. Without allowing for working capital the directors have decided to issue the 662 unallotted shares of the Company, which will bring our capital issue up to Tls. 850,000. We shall invite the public by tender for these shares and the Directors will reserve to themselves the right of accepting or refusing the prices offered for the shares. We find that the proportion would be about 12 to 1 and we thought it would be very difficult to divide the shares thus, as some of the shareholders, say those who hold five shares, would not be able to get a share; but by placing them on the market we hope we shall do better. Furthermore we propose to ask you to sanction the issue of debentures—and I have a resolution to bring before you to that effect—to the extent of Tls. 300,000, the security offered to be the first charge upon the land, buildings, and machinery of the Company. By our resolution we ask for a free hand to be granted us, for as time goes on we may not find it necessary to issue more than Tls. 200,000 debentures, if as much, and you may rest assured we will not burden the Company with more than we can help. With regard to interest, we have fixed it at the rate of 6 per cent. or not to exceed 6 per cent. and I think we are not over sanguine when I say that we shall be

able to place our debentures, not perhaps all at once, but at any rate by degrees. If the capital does not exceed Tls. 300,000, and we can issue debentures at 6 per cent., I think we shall be doing exceedingly well for the Company. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Noronha.—What is the rate of interest of the overdraft?

The Chairman.—We are paying the usual rate, 6 per cent. Well, gentlemen, if no one has anything else to say I will propose:—"That the Directors be and they are hereby authorised to create and issue debentures providing for the payment of the principal sums not exceeding Three-hundred thousand Taels Shanghai Sycee silver with interest at a rate not exceeding 6 per cent. per annum, such debentures to be in such form and to be secured in such manner and to issued to such persons and on such terms as the Directors think expedient."

Mr. D. Brand seconded.

Carried.

The Chairman.—That concludes the business of the meeting. We propose to close our accounts half yearly, and I hope we shall be able to declare an interim dividend (Applause). I would like to state before we depart the very high appreciation which the Directors have had for the management of the mill under the director, Mr. James Jones, and for the good order and discipline of the mill staff (Applause). Dividend warrants will be issued to-morrow.

Mr. Jones—I thank you on behalf of the Mill staff and I also thank you for the remarks relating to myself and the kind manner in which you have expressed your appreciation of my services.—*China Gazette*.

The following is the report presented to the meeting:

The Directors have the pleasure of submitting the audited Accounts for the year ending 30th September, 1897.

The Mill commenced working on the 17th of January with 2,000 Spindles, which have gradually been augmented to the full capacity of 40,000 Spindles which are now erected and complete, and of which 32,000 Spindles have been in full work, day and night, for the past two months.

The Engines, Machinery and Buildings are now completed, and together with the Sprinkler Installation and Electric Lighting give every satisfaction.

The Net Profit on the working up to date amounts to Tls. 39,111.69, from which the Directors recommend a Dividend of 3½ per cent. for the year ending 30th September, 1897, absorbing Tls. 27,433.00, and to carry forward Tls. 2,678.69.

Directors.—Mr. Chok Sian Yin has definitely retired from the Board, Mr. E. A. Probst retires by rotation, and offers himself for re-election. Mr. J. F. Seaman having gone home in July last, Mr. Edward Davis was invited to take a seat on the Board to fill the vacancy, and his appointment requires confirmation.

Auditors.—Mr. C. W. Wrightson having resigned during August, the Directors appointed Mr. Thomas Wood to take his place, and the Accounts have been audited by Mr. Rufus Eastlack and Mr. Thomas Wood; both gentlemen offer themselves for re-election.

The directors find that with slight alterations the present buildings can be made to accommodate a further 5,000 Spindles. This will involve only a small additional outlay. To provide for this, and the 5,000 Spindles, the Directors are considering the best means of raising the necessary funds, and this will form the subject of a Special Resolution.

THE AMERICAN TRADING CO.,

JAS. JONES,

Agent, General Managers.

Shanghai, 28th October, 1897.

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT TO 30TH SEPTEMBER, 1897.

	Dr.	Tls.
To directors' fees .....	5,250.00	
To auditors' fees .....	500.00	
To General Agents' commission .....	4,250.00	
To balance .....	30,111.69	
		Tls. 40,111.69
By rent on Chinese houses .....	904.91	
By transfer fees .....	192.70	
By premium on shares .....	765.00	
By interest account .....	568.52	
By balance of working account .....	37,680.56	
		Tls. 40,111.69

[November 24, 1897.]

LIABILITIES AND ASSETS, 30TH SEPTEMBER, 1897.	
LIABILITIES.	Tls.
7,833 fully paid-up shares, Tls. 100 each	783,800.00
Overdraft at bankers	367,360.40
Suspense account	4,452.95
American Trading Co.	5,277.21
Balance of profit and loss account	30,111.69
	Tls. 1,232,002.69
ASSETS.	Tls.
Buildings and land improvements	211,920.03
Plant and machinery	678,827.49
Property account (Chinese houses and land)	74,153.57
Sundry appliances	6,711.29
Furniture account	3,534.67
Engine supplies	2,000.00
Electric launch	40.30
Preliminary expense	4,129.87
Fire insurance unexpired	11,751.55
Cotton in stock	177,668.48
Undelivered yarn	61,265.00
	Tls. 1,232,002.25

### GREAT EASTERN AND CALEDONIAN GOLD MINING CO., LIMITED.

Messrs. Lütgens, Einstmann and Co., the General Agents, have received the following report from their manager at the mines:

Great Eastern Main shaft has been sunk to a depth of 45 feet and timber has been put in to a depth of 35 feet. We are working now with three shifts of men, but 10 feet will be the utmost that they will be able to sink per week, as the ground is getting harder.

Caledonian Shaft has been sunk now to an actual depth of 35 feet. The ground remains the same, fairly hard, and about 6 feet per week is all that two shifts will be able to do. Great things are expected by all miners from this line of reef. As the old main shaft and the old workings are full of water we shall have to clear out one of the old shafts to drain the main shaft. Timbers will be started here next week.

Zulu Main Shaft has now reached a total depth of 48 feet from windlass, of which 27 feet have been timbered. This also is a splendid shaft. Soon after the despatch of my last letter, we broke through what looks like an old drive, and the reef was also showing in the south end of the shaft. At a depth of about 36 feet we reached the solid bottom with the reef right through the shaft from end to end. Several dish tests made gave a very rich return of free gold with the dish showing a great lot of mineral. The free gold in the dish went to a good deal more than 2 oz per ton, of which I informed you by telegram. The lode is averaging 9 inches and the average value we estimate at 12 ozs. per ton.

Prospecting Shaft, Gold Lease 37, has been sunk to a depth of 20 feet. We have been following a soft reef formation on the main line of reef and are undoubtedly on the right track.

### CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents.]

### NAVAL STATIONS IN THE EAST.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

SIR,—Germany has wisely made the Chinese Government aware that her citizens cannot be killed with impunity, by seizing on and confiscating Kiaochau Bay, in Shantung, for a naval station. In this action she deserves the sympathy and thanks of all foreign residents in the East. How is it that the British Government with a score or two of her citizens killed at different times, temporizes with the apology of a government existing at Peking and fails to demand the cession of the territory necessary to render her naval base at Hongkong secure.

INDIGNANT BRITISHER.  
Hongkong, 19th November, 1897.

### OUR CRICKET VISITORS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

SIR.—The Committee of the Cricket Club will feel obliged to you if you will kindly give publicity in your columns to an expression of their thanks for the heartiness with which the various social and sporting clubs in the colony

have co-operated with the Cricket Club to render the visit of the Straits and Shanghai Cricket teams a pleasant one. By the courtesy of their Committees all the members of both teams were made honorary members of the Hongkong Club, the German Club, the New Club, the Royal Hongkong Golf Club, and the Victoria Recreation Club; and my committee desire me to take this opportunity to express their appreciation of the great kindness shown in so assisting them. Thanking you in anticipation.—I am, sir, yours faithfully,

EDWARD A. RAM.  
Hon. Secretary, Hongkong Cricket Club.  
Hongkong, 19th November, 1897.

### THE OBJECTS OF THE NAVY LEAGUE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

DEAR SIR.—Inasmuch as some uncertainty appears to exist as to the aims and objects of the Navy League, I am writing to you so as to inform the public through the press what the main objects of the Navy League are. These objects may be defined as follows:

(1).—To educate people to an appreciation of our big commercial interests, our large mercantile marine, and our immense vulnerable assets in the shape of colonies and possessions.

(2).—To spread information showing the vital importance to the British Empire of maintaining the naval supremacy of Great Britain, because our trade, empire, and national existence depend mainly upon it.

(3).—To call attention to the enormous demands which war would make upon the Navy and to the fact that our commerce can be guarded only by a supremely powerful and well manned Navy which will be able to assert and maintain the command of the sea.

(4).—To convince every taxpayer and every politician that judicious expenditure upon the Navy is, for the nation, only the ordinary insurance which no prudent person grudges in private affairs.

(In connection with this point, a comparison was drawn in the *Navy League Journal* for April, 1896, between the naval expenditure for 1895 of Great Britain and the naval expenditure of the four following European powers, namely, France, Russia, Germany, and Italy; and the article upon this subject concludes as follows:—"The total ocean or sea-borne commerce of the four European Powers above named is as 58½ only to 100 of British commerce; their shipping or mercantile marine tonnage is only as 32 to 100 of British; while their naval expenditure is as 129 to 100 of ours; and the total of their naval expenditure per ton of shipping owned by them is as 1861 to 100 of British expenditure on navy as compared with our shipping.")

(5).—To call attention from time to time to such general measures as may appear to be requisite to secure adequate preparation for the maritime defence of the Empire.

(6).—To insist that the question of the Navy lies above and beyond all considerations of party politics, that a sudden increase of naval strength is impossible, and that continuity of preparation is the essence of national security, and the only safeguard against ruinous and discreditable scares.

(7).—By inculcating and strenuously upholding the principles of a grand national policy based upon sea power, to bind together the scattered members of the Empire into one great whole, united in interest and patriotism.

I am, dear sir, yours faithfully,  
HENRY E. POLLOCK.  
Hon. Secretary,

Navy League, Hongkong Branch  
18, Bank Buildings, 22nd November 1897.

P.S.—I take this opportunity of forwarding to you a copy of the report and statement of accounts which will be submitted to the members and associates of the Hongkong branch of the Navy League at the annual general meeting to be held at the City Hall on the 3rd proximo.

H.E.P.

### REPORT AND STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING THE 30TH OF SEPTEMBER, 1897.

The following is a brief summary of the various subjects which have engaged the atten-

tion of the Hongkong branch of the Navy League during the past twelve months.

1.—In consequence of an apprehension which was entertained at the beginning of this year that there was going to be a reduction made in the Navy Estimates submitted to the British Parliament in March, a petition against any such reduction was circulated by this branch and was extensively signed in Hongkong and some of the neighbouring ports.

2.—Following on the lines of the example set by the head branch of the Navy League prizes to the value of \$10 for the best essays on the "Command of the Sea" and "The Use of the British Navy" were offered by this branch for competition in each of the four following institutions, namely:—The Queen's College, The Victoria English Schools, The St. Joseph's English College, and The Diocesan Home.

3.—The subject of the unfortunate increase of contagious diseases in this colony has been considered and the Head Branch of the League has recently brought the matter to the notice of the proper authorities at home. This question is a very difficult one to deal with, but the trial of some remedial measures appears to be urgently necessary.

4.—This branch has also been pressing upon the attention of the head office the desirability of a stronger British Fleet being kept upon the China Station.

(In connection with this same point a very interesting letter and an oil painting showing the commercial importance of Hongkong were received from Mr. Claude Ley Kum, an associate of this Branch, and were forwarded at his request to the head branch of the League in London.)

Amongst the important events of the year may be chronicled:—

(I.) The unconditional presentation by the Cape Government to the Mother Country of a battleship.

(II.) The vote of a sum of £575,500 by the British Parliament for dockyard extension in Hongkong.

(III.) The movement in Canada towards trade reciprocity with Great Britain.

(IV.) The Jubilee naval review at Spithead.

(V.) The concession of certain privileges, which had been specially asked for by this branch of the Navy League, namely, the right for men desiring to join the Royal Naval Reserve to enrol themselves locally in Hongkong, and the right for Royal Naval Reserve men to be paid their retainers in Hongkong.

(VI.) The starting of a branch of the Navy League at Chinkiang.

HENRY E. POLLOCK,

Hon. Secretary.

Hongkong, 30th September, 1897.

Dr.	\$ c.
21st October, 1896, telegram to head office Trafalgar Day	22.00
26th October, sundry disbursements by former Hon. Treasurer (Mr. E. W. Mitchell)	27.05
9th February, 1897, remittance to London £17 17s. at 2 1/2	169 29
20th May, remittance to London	35 60
21st May, paid by Hon. Treasurer for postage	8 18
10th June, paid Guedes & Co., printing	12 00
26th June, paid Headmaster Diocesan School for prizes for essays naval subjects	40 00
Balance in hand	551 61
	\$865.71

Cr.	\$ c.
Balance brought forward from last account	312 69
By subscriptions of 88 members (less \$3 paid shroff)	502 00
By subscription of 21 associates	42.00
By interest allowed by bank	9.02
	\$865.71

### CHINESE PROGRESS.

Mr. Yien Shang Yne (the Customs banker) and Mr. Ching Nien San (assistant-manager of the Chinese Telegraphs) in concert with some of the local gentry are about to establish a School at Shanghai for educating Chinese girls in foreign learning and medical science. The teachers for the school are Miss Kang and Miss Shih, native ladies educated and graduated in the United States of America.—*Shanghai Daily Press.*

**"AN ENGLISH TONKIN."**

Under the nom de plume of Paul de Vareilles, a writer contributes a long article, "Un Tonkin Anglais," to *L'Avenir du Tonkin* of the 6th instant. We make the following extracts:—

Tonkin has, so to say, two values, a value of its own, and a value resulting from its surroundings. It was not for its own value that France made her enormous sacrifices of men and money, but for the value of the surroundings. Through its gulf and its rivers, the country permits of the access of vessels. Its land frontier borders on three Chinese provinces—Kwangtung, Kwangsi, and Yunnan—of an incalculable richness, especially when one takes into account that the last named province has a portion of the wealth of Szechuen flowing into it. It was to obtain a close communication with those four provinces that France conquered Tonkin. It was to assure herself almost exclusively of the commerce of South China that France consented to the great sacrifices in men and money the conquest entailed. With time she has been able to obtain the complete pacification of the country. In France, where the patriotic preoccupations are spread over a number of points, such as Madagascar, the Sondan, etc., people have begun to feel irritated at the financial situation of Tonkin, the more so as distance obscures the development work which is being done here and which is on the point of being transformed into splendid results. But at Hongkong, which is nearer Tonkin and where the spirit of rivalry is always kept awake, the English had a presentiment of the purposes for which Tonkin was destined, purposes to the detriment of the English port, and they quickly resolved upon striking us a mortal blow by opening the West River. The English will have a direct, or as some say, indirect, activity on the whole course of the West River. To a certain extent, and without having been put to the sacrifices France has made in Tonkin, they will have acquired on their side a kind of English Red River.

Through the opening of the West River the English have not only shortened the distance, but have brought their influence to bear, from Hongkong to Wuchow, annihilating more or less Canton. Up to now, and for all that part of China, one might say that the English traded with Canton and with Canton only. They had to put up to a certain extent with the movements of the place. Henceforth they can more or less neglect it. Henceforth they will negotiate direct with the different commercial centres of Kwangsi. They have just established themselves commercially in Kwangsi, as they have established themselves politically in Egypt. A few years hence we will have to suffer, we in Tonkin, for the grave mistakes of our diplomacy, which ought to have done everything to prevent this result from taking place, or, not being able to check it, to obtain from China some sufficient compensation. In this province of China, which borders on our first and second military territories, will they the better secure their aims since they have just obtained a new success—the transit pass. The transit pass systems the destruction of lekin. In Kwangsi the goods go from Wuchow to Nanning without having to pay any lekin. At Nanning they encounter the first lekin which should be paid if the goods were unaccompanied by a transit pass. There this pass is exchanged for a transit certificate, which frees the goods of all lekin to the place of destination, say Posé or Lungchow. Thus, thanks to the transit pass exchanged at the first lekin office for a transit certificate, all merchandise can go from any one point of Kwangsi towards the entrepot of Wuchow or vice versa without having to pay a single duty to the Internal Customs. English goods destined for Posé, for example, pay import duty at the rate of 5 per cent. ad valorem and for the transit pass half the import duty, or 7½ per cent. in all. It should be added, however, that this 7½ per cent. is payable in dollars or taels, not at the reduced value of silver, but at the value the dollar or tael possessed at the date of the treaty between England and China. Consequently the merchandise does not at present pay more than 3 per cent. Here, then, is an enormous result, from the commercial point of view, and one which will produce a double consequence. The transit trade to and from Yunnan, sing-

ularly favoured by the West River, may be on the eve of passing into the hands of the English if France does not obtain from Peking sufficient compensation. But there is another consequence of almost equal importance and which must be instantly noticed. The duty on the import of English goods to Lungchow for example, is so slight, 7½ per cent. in appearance, 3 per cent. in reality, that it leaves a large margin for contraband trade with a country which, like Tonkin, is subjected to the general tariff. Contraband will be largely carried on on the frontiers of the first and second military territories. Two years hence, English goods will enter Tonkin as they please, and there will remain but few who will persist in importing foreign goods through Haiphong to pay customs duties. France will be confronted with the alternatives of covering our Northern frontier with an army of customs officers or of abolishing the customs of Indo-China and allowing free entrance to English products. Those are the two consequences, both equally disastrous, resulting from the opening of the West River. The English can accompany the goods in Kwangsi in virtue of Art 2 of Rule I.—"The Imperial Maritime Customs will deliver the pass to the merchant, who can personally go, or send an agent, native or foreign, with the pass to the indicated spot." Thus, whereas the French are obliged to obtain a Chinese passport to travel in Kwangsi, the English, under pretext of accompanying or going in search of a small package, can overrun this province in every sense. They will take advantage of this prerogative, it may be to arrange for contraband trade, to organise piracy, or to supply Kwangsi with arms in view of a conflict between France and China.

Such is the work of our late ambassador at Peking, Mr. Gerard. It is true he has obtained an indemnity for Mr. Marty and a railway for the Compagnie de Fives-Lille. It is true that he took home with him a high Chinese decoration for the President of the French Republic. Relying on these facts the friends of Mr. Gerard may celebrate the ability of this ambassador, but France, which works and labours, will learn, not without stupefaction, that under the embassy of this man the whole of Kwangsi has been given over to English influence. We ought henceforth to prepare ourselves for all eventualities, and for the greatest sacrifices.

Tonkin is no longer in reality bordered by pacific China, but by the English, who have taken root in Kwangsi and who have made or will make of it an English Tonkin.

**CABINET CHANGES IN JAPAN.**

The Japanese *Official Gazette* of the 7th November announces the retirement of Count Okuma from the position of Minister of State for Foreign Affairs and acting Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce, and directs that, as a special measure, he shall continue to receive the treatment due to a Minister of State. Baron Nishi Tokujiro is appointed from the position of Privy Councillor to succeed Count Okuma at the Foreign Office.

**RUSSIA AND KOREA.**

Seoul, 3rd November.

M. Alexieff is accompanied by a high official connected with the Siberian Railway, whose mission is said to be to arrange for the construction of railways in Korea to join the new Russian system in Manchuria.

The Minister for Foreign Affairs is reported to have proposed the dismissal of all foreign employés in the Korean service with the exception of those of Russian nationality.

Seoul, 6th November.

It is reported that the contract signed between M. de Speyer, the Russian Minister, and the Korean Foreign Minister respecting the engagement of M. Alexieff, runs as follows:—

1.—That M. Alexieff shall be engaged as Financial Adviser and Superintendent-General of Customs in Korea.

2.—That M. Alexieff shall be paid an annual salary of 3,000 yen.

3.—That the term of his service be left undecided.

4.—That M. Alexieff shall have the power of appointing or dismissing the Custom-house officials (*so-zeimushi*).

M. Alexieff is managing the business of the Korean Financial Department in the Russian Legation. Important documents and papers were sent to the Russian Legation yesterday from the Financial Department.

Seoul, 7th November.

The contract for the engagement of M. Alexieff consists of eight articles. Article 8 provides that in consideration of the friendship existing between Korea and Russia, the term of service of M. Alexieff shall remain indefinite, but that only a foreigner of Russian nationality shall be appointed Financial Adviser if he leaves the office. Article 5 provides that the Financial Adviser (Mr. Alexieff) shall choose his own Collector-General of Customs (an office which Mr. Brown has previously held, together with that of Financial Adviser).

**LAUNCH OF A NEW JAPANESE CRUISER.**

The latest addition to the Japanese Navy was made on the 8th November by the launch at the Yokosuka shipbuilding yard of the cruiser *Akashi*, a sister vessel we believe, to the *Suma*, which was launched from the same yard about two years ago. The *Akashi* is a steel, twin-screw cruiser of 90 metres in length, 12.70 metres beam, 4.80 metres draft, 2,800 tons displacement and 8,000 horse-power. It is expected that she will attain a speed of 19½ knots an hour. Her coal bunkers have a capacity for 600 tons, and her armament, when completed, will consist of six 12-centimetre quick-firing guns, two 15-centimetre quick-firers, four machine guns and two torpedo tubes. The six 12-centimetre guns will be mounted in sponsors, three of which are constructed on either side of the ship, the two 15-centimetre guns being mounted, behind shields, fore and aft.—*Japan Mail*.

**THE KOREAN RAILWAY.**

The Chemulpo correspondent of the *Independent* writes as follows:—The work on the Seoul-Chemulpo Railway is pushing on towards Seoul, and I believe that some two thousand workmen are at it on the Seoul side of Orikol. They are all Koreans, with the exception of thirty or so, and the Superintendent of the construction assures me that he is perfectly satisfied with the manner in which they are working. He says that the Koreans are far superior to Japanese and Chinese in heavy grading work and that they endure hardship much better than their neighbours. Mr. Colbran, the President of the American-Oriental Construction Company, who is one of the principal financiers of the Seoul-Chemulpo Railway is expected here early next month, probably in company with Mr. Morse. I am told that several matters will be decided after arrival and the work will be pushed more vigorously.

**THE PEKING RAILWAY AND THE CARRIAGE OF GRAIN.**

The following despatch has been received from Peking:—In order to encourage the grain importers of Peking to use the Tientsin and Peking Railway for transporting their goods from Tientsin to the capital, H.E. Hu intends to abolish the likin duties on cereals carried by freight trains, which are at present collected at Tientsin by the likin officers of the T'ungchou grain sub-prefect. In this way the grain dealers will only have one duty to pay on cereals imported into Peking, which has to be paid to the Metropolitan Octroi Department the moment the goods enter the Yungting gate of the capital. As the average sum collected yearly by the Tsung-chou grain sub-prefect in likin on imported grain at Tientsin, en route for the capital, amounts to about Tls. 8,000, and the cost of maintenance of the likin stations and staff in Tientsin and at posts en route amount to about Tls. 3,000 per annum, H.E. Hu intends to pay Tls. 5,000 a year to the T'ungchou grain sub-prefect out of the estimated surplus of the earnings of the Railway, in order to indemnify that official for the loss of his income caused by the abolition of the provincial likin on imported cereals. The proposed reform has been hailed with delight by the people as well as the grain dealers, as the former will greatly benefit by obtaining cheaper grain.—*N. C. Daily News*.

[November 24, 1897.]

## HONGKONG.

The hot weather has at last left us and we are now enjoying a delightfully cool and clear air, but the welcome change did not come until after a spell of very wet weather, on one day over six inches of rain falling in the colony. The Volunteer Concert in honour of the cricketers had to be held in the City Hall on Wednesday night, it having been postponed on Tuesday in consequence of the inclement conditions which prevailed that day. At Thursday's meeting of the Sanitary Board it was reported foot and mouth disease had broken out amongst the cattle at the Pokfulam Dairy Farm. On Saturday the Taikoo Club held a bicycle tournament at Quarry Bay, and on Monday a meeting of the Legislative Council was held.

It is notified in the *Gazette* that the Vaccine Institute has been re-opened.

There were 2,202 visitors to the City Hall Museum last week, of whom 166 were Europeans.

The new Japanese battleship *Yashima* arrived here on 19th November from England en route to Japan.

Dr. Doberck, Government Astronomer, returned from leave of absence on 19th November by the N. P. steamer *Victoria*.

We hear that the Amateur Dramatic Club contemplate producing "A Pantomime Rehearsal" during the Christmas season.

The death rate last month was, for the British and Foreign community, civil population, 14; and for the Chinese community 17.3.

The lower end of Pottinger Street, from Queen's Road to the Praya, is to be closed to wheeled traffic from Wednesday next, during the construction of the new storm water drain.

At the regular meeting of the Perseverance Lodge held on the 16th Nov. Wm. Bro. J. W. Edwards was re-elected Worshipful Master, Bro. A. Seth Treasurer, and Bro. J. R. Grimble Tyler for the ensuing year.

We learn that Lam Tsan Wa, the man who committed the double murder at Shelley Street and afterwards tried to commit suicide by cutting his throat, is progressing favourably in the Government Civil Hospital.

The Austrian Lloyds S. N. Co.'s new steamer *Trieste* arrived here on 19th Nov. on her first voyage. She was built in the company's own ship-building yard at Trieste, and is a steel ship, with a length of 400 ft. and beam of 48 ft., and a gross carrying capacity of 7,925 tons. She has superior and luxuriously fitted cabin accommodation for passengers. The *Moravia*, another new vessel of the Austrian Lloyds, also arrived yesterday.

It is notified in the *Gazette* that the Ordinance to further amend the Medical Registration Ordinance, 1884, and to repeal Ordinance No. 1 of 1897 has received Her Majesty's approval. It is also notified that the Governor has given his assent, in the name and on behalf of the Queen, to the following Ordinances:—The Appropriation Ordinance, 1898, the Chinese Extradition Amendment Ordinance, and the Interpretation Ordinance.

Inspector Duncan on 17th Nov. summoned Ng Tin Yan, residing at No. 25, Wyndham Street, for having, on the 16th, 11th, and 12th instant caused crackers to be fired and gongs to be beaten within prohibited hours. Defendant said he had a permit from the Registrar-General to fire crackers, and that the gongs were not beaten before 6 a.m. nor after 11 p.m. on any of the days in question. Evidence was, however, taken to show that the cracker firing was going on, on and off, all day on those dates, and that the gong beating was begun before 6 a.m. and continued till after 11 p.m. Hon. H. E. Wodehouse imposed a fine of \$10.

It will be seen from our report of the meeting of the Sanitary Board held on 18th Nov. that some cattle at the Dairy Farm are suffering from foot and mouth disease. The public, however, may rest assured that the milk supply will not be tainted, due precautions having been taken. The Dairy Company has been particularly unfortunate in regard to the health of its cattle. Last year's visitation of the rinderpest caused a most serious loss to the Company, and only a very short time ago several of the cattle suffered from acute diarrhoea, while now foot and mouth disease has been detected in two of the sheds. Has it occurred to the authorities that the disease may have been maliciously communicated to the animals?

The steamer *Kwongsang*, which arrived on 18th Nov. from Chinkiang, rescued the crew (four in number) of a fishing junk on Wednesday afternoon. The junk had been capsized in Wednesday's gale.

On 18th Nov. the Straits cricketers left Hongkong by the English mail steamer *Ancona* and the Shanghai team by the American mail steamer *Doric*. Hosts of friends took leave of the teams on their respective boats and raised loud cheers in their honour.

At ten p.m. on 21st Nov. information was received at the Central Police Station that a fire had broken out in Winglok Street. The brigade promptly turned out and halted at a rice shop in Winglok Street. After a diligent search the firemen, with the aid of lighted candles, found a beam in the ceiling of the first floor smouldering. The sparks were quickly smothered with water and practically no damage was done.

The weather of Tuesday night and Wednesday, 16th and 17th Nov., was almost unprecedented for the month of November. Shortly after twelve o'clock on Tuesday night a thunderstorm broke over the colony and heavy rain continued to fall until daybreak. As the morning wore on the weather improved and the sun occasionally made its appearance, but in the afternoon rain again set in steadily. At 11 a.m. the Observatory notified the existence of a depression to the southward of Hongkong and the north cone was hoisted. The rainfall for the twenty-four hours up to 10 a.m. on the 17th as recorded at the Observatory, was 5.18 inches, while at the Botanic Gardens 6.22 inches were recorded.

At eight o'clock on Monday morning what might have proved a serious accident occurred in Lower Shelley Street. A dust cart was being dragged by six coolies, and when it had reached that portion of the street midway between Hollywood Road and Staunton Street, one of the coolies slipped and fell. The others, with the exception of a man who was pushing behind, released their hold, and the cart rolled down the street. Fortunately upon reaching the Hollywood level, one of the wheels gave way, and the career of the vehicle was effectually checked. The coolie who had retained his hold was thrown under the cart, but sustained no injuries. Several children were playing in the street at the time, but happily they managed to get out of the way, and two private, rickshaws that were on the other side of Hollywood Road also escaped being smashed.

We have been requested by the Secretary of the Punjom Mining Co., Limited, to correct the statements regarding that Company made by Mr. J. Y. V. Vernon in his share circular for the English mail. At the extraordinary general meeting of shareholders held on Saturday last, the 13th inst., no date was mentioned as having been fixed for the payment of the call. The Chairman simply read the notice which will shortly be posted to all registered shareholders informing them that the resolutions confirming the re-construction scheme have been passed, but no dates were given. At that time it was impossible to fix the date for the payment of the call. The matter of the transfer of shares in the old Company is, we are informed, entirely at the option of the liquidator and will only be done as an act of courtesy to avoid putting shareholders to unnecessary inconvenience.

At a Court Martial held on the *Victor Emanuel* on 17th November, C. E. West, A.B., was tried on a charge of desertion from H. M. S. *Alacrity*. The prisoner, who gave himself up on board the *Rainbow* at Yokohama, said that since he deserted, three years ago, he had served in several American sailing ships. He gave himself up voluntarily in order to rectify as far as possible the charge of desertion and in doing so gave up a good position as second officer of the *R. D. Rice* at Yokohama. He begged the court also to take into account his previous good character and the fact that he had been detained for a period of five months. Prisoner was sentenced to ninety days' imprisonment with hard labour. W. J. Brangan and Charles Hodgson, A.B.s. of the *Peacock*, were charged with desertion and theft. It appeared that while the ship was at Yokohama they stole \$175 from the box of a petty officer and deserted. Brangan was sentenced to twelve months' imprisonment with hard labour and Hodgson to two years, both to be dismissed the service.

The Hongkong Philharmonic Society will give an orchestral concert in St. George's Hall on Friday, 3rd December. The Committee of the Society is composed as follows:—Hon. W. Meigh Goodman, Messrs. W. G. Bentley, A.R.C.M., A. H. Bottenheim (Hon. Treasurer), A. Cumming (Hon. Secretary), H. Ehmer, A. Giraud, G. P. Lammert, E. Mirow, and A. G. Ward. Mr. Bentley will conduct at the concert. We understand that it is the intention of the Society to give a second concert before the departure of the West Yorkshire Regiment, when the pieces will be rendered by the West Yorkshire Band and the orchestra combined.

The hon. treasurer of the Alice Memorial and Nethersole Hospitals begs to acknowledge with thanks the following donations to the funds of the Hospitals:—

Balance of Hon. Dr. Ho Kai's fare well address fund	\$98.52
Choi Chee Bee	25
Yeung Nai On	25
Chai On Insurance Co., Limited	15
Wong Kam Fuk	10
Kaw Hong Take	10
Chan Shek Shan	5
Wing Yue Shing	5
Yee on	5
Tai Chuen	5
Sums under \$5	40

Some time ago the export of cattle from the Pak Kong district on the North River was prohibited. A portion of Hongkong's supply is obtained from this district and as a result of the prohibition the price of beef was raised in the local market. A petition was presented by the cattle dealers to the Viceroy of Canton on the subject, in which the petitioners made an offer to pay \$1,000 a year for the privilege of bringing down cattle. The petition was, however, refused. We now learn that on the 6th instant a prohibition was issued at Siu Chau, in the Pak Kong district, forbidding the export of rice, oil, and firewood from that place. Several junks laden with those articles happened to be passing at the time, and were not allowed to proceed on their voyage. Great discontent prevails at Siu Chau.

At Wongneicheong on the 19th instant, a woman was asked by one of her neighbours to show the ring she wore. On doing so, the ring was snatched from her finger and all efforts to recover it proved futile. She had no other recourse but to appeal to the Police. Inspector Mann sent a Chinese Constable to inquire into the affair. The constable went to the house of the accused, where he was set upon by an infuriated old woman, who held in her hand an antiquated and queer-looking little sword. She was, however, disarmed and placed in custody. On Saturday, 20th Nov., she was brought before the Magistrate, and it was stated that the woman had on several occasions been sent to the Asylum by the Police, and had been liberated. She was a continuous source of annoyance to her neighbours, constantly quarrelling with them, and robbing them of their fowls, eggs, etc. Hon. H. E. Wodehouse ordered her to be kept under observation for a week.

Both the Singapore papers have referred to the Straits cricket team that recently visited us as not being the colony's best. This opinion is repeated by the *Singapore Free Press* in an article congratulating the Straits team on winning their double event in such splendid style. "Taking it all round, the team that went up was just about as good as any team that might be expected to arrange to get away—not the best team but a good one," is the description given by our contemporary. Captain Talbot, however, entertained a different opinion. At the dinner given to the visitors he referred to the unusual and fortunate circumstance of all the best men being able to get away at the same time, and said he did not think the team could have been improved except by the inclusion of Dr. Fox. By the way, was it not rather unfortunate that the proceedings at the dinner were not reported? Possibly the privacy observed may have been agreeable to our visitors, but the friends of cricket at Singapore and Shanghai must have been disappointed at not being allowed to read what transpired. The speeches that were made were first-class, a long way above the average on such occasions. Humour, common sense, and good feeling all found expression.

A gallant rescue from drowning was made on Tuesday night, 16th Nov., by Bombadier Vaughan, of the Royal Artillery, and Private Barnett, of H. Co., West Yorkshire Regiment. The Commissariat launch *Jubilee* was proceeding to Stonecutters with a number of men belonging to the detachment stationed there, Private Barnett being on board on military police duty. At about 8.15 p.m., when the launch was between the *Victor Emanuel* and the torpedo catchers, Gunner E. Riley went to the side and jumped overboard, apparently intending to commit suicide, as he is said to have been quite sober at the time. Bombadier Vaughan, divesting himself only of his jacket, immediately jumped in after him and the launch was at once stopped. Private Barnett with great presence of mind threw over four life buoys, one of which was caught by Bombadier Vaughan, who swam with it to the drowning man. Private Barnett after throwing the buoys quickly took off his outer clothing and jumped overboard to assist in the rescue. The night was dark, but both the men in the water were at that time vigorously calling out. Private Barnett in a few strokes reached the spot where they were and found Riley, who had apparently repented of his intention to commit suicide (if that was the reason that caused him to jump overboard), holding on to Vaughan by the latter's coat collar. Barnett seized Riley's collar and so assisted in supporting him until the three were picked up by a boat which had been promptly sent off from the *Victor Emanuel* on the cries from the water being heard. Riley, who was completely exhausted when picked up, was detained on board the *Victor Emanuel* by the doctor overnight. The next morning he was handed over to his own authorities, and has been charged with the crime of attempting to commit suicide.

The concert given by the Hongkong Volunteer Corps at the City Hall on Wednesday night, 17th Nov., in honour of the cricketers was well attended considering the fearfully bad state of the weather. It was most unfortunate that the Volunteers shared their usual fate on the evening fixed for the promenade concert at Headquarters. It seems as if an al fresco concert cannot be arranged on the Parade Ground without the rain falling in torrents on the particular evening set apart for the entertainment; instances of this are too numerous to mention. However, the concert in the City Hall was a success, although of course it was essentially one for the open air. The public were introduced for the first time to Mrs. Jewell, who is a most vivacious lady and sings with such cheerfulness as to send the audience into ecstasies. She sang "The Amorous Gold Fish" and then, as an encore, "Coming thro' the Rye," the latter song being interpreted in a manner peculiarly her own. Mrs. Dealy sang "The Flight of Ages" in beautiful style and she was so warmly applauded that she had to respond with an encore. Mrs. Dealy has an exceedingly rich contralto voice and we hope she will be heard frequently during this season. Of the other vocalists it is unnecessary to say much: they are so well known. Mr. C. H. Grace was in fine form and he sang "The Romany Lass" with very marked expression. As usual he was enthusiastically encored. Mr. S. H. Somerton sang "The Golden Bar," a very fine song which we believe had not been heard in Hongkong before. The comic element was supplied by Gunner Bentley and Mr. C. T. Robinson, the latter of whom sang a song written specially for the cricketers. The gymnastic and military display by the Volunteers was much enjoyed and thanks are due to all the men who took part in it for the trouble they put themselves to. Those who took part in this display were Lieutenant Wylie, Quarter-master Sergeant Coyle, Sergeants Armstrong, Hayward, and Lammert, Corporals Kennett and Purcell, and Gunners Bew, Cotton, and Townsend. An amusing entertainment by the Scamp Minstrels concluded the concert, which was no doubt much enjoyed by the many cricketers who were present. We should add that the Band of the Hongkong Regiment played selections of music, which were deservedly applauded. The Band of the West Yorkshire Regiment had, by kind permission of Colonel Gordon and the officers, been engaged for Tuesday, but it was found impossible for them to attend on Wednesday night.

At the Magistracy on 17th Nov., a Japanese coffee house keeper at 122, Wellington Street, was charged with selling intoxicating liquors on the 9th instant. Mr. F. X. d'Almada e Castro appeared for the defence. It appeared from the evidence that at 7.45 on the evening of the 9th inst. Detective Sergeant Gidley gave J. Ledbury a marked 50 cent piece and told him to buy samshu at 122, Wellington Street. Ledbury went into the house with a friend of his, and ordered a couple of beef steaks and some bread. They likewise asked for samshu which was brought them. Sergeant Gidley soon afterwards entered and found two tumblers containing samshu on the table, and a small bottle of the same liquor under it. The marked 50 cent piece was found in the tray at the counter. The defence was that the samshu was bought from outside at the request of the two men. Ledbury, however, denied that and said he saw the boy fetch the liquor from the kitchen. The defendant was fined \$75 and each of the two informers was awarded \$10.

The steamer *Taichow*, Captain Primrose, which arrived on Monday from Bangkok, reports that she had fine weather and smooth sea to Cape Valilla, on the 17th, when strong N.N.W. to northerly gales with high sea were encountered. On the 21st at 6 a.m. noticed a junk flying signals of distress with rudder and spars gone and leaking badly. The steamer laid to and launched a boat manned by the chief officer and five seamen, and rescued the crew of the junk, consisting of seven men, three women, four girls, and one boy. The master of the junk stated that he left Macao on the 26th October and on the 17th November encountered bad weather, the vessel losing her rudder, spars, and sail, and leaking badly. She was abandoned in a sinking condition in lat. 21 deg. N. long. 113 deg. E. The recent bad weather would appear to have worked considerable havoc amongst native craft. The *Fame* was sent out on Saturday to Gap Rock to bring in sixteen shipwrecked fishermen who had landed there. She also brought two men from another small island near by, to which Captain McIsaac's attention was attracted by seeing signals of distress flying. A boat was sent off and the two men came back in it and reported that fifteen or sixteen fishing boats had been wrecked there two days before and that there were about sixty people on shore, who wished to remain and save what they could of their property, the two men coming on to Hongkong to charter a junk to assist in that work. The steamer *Triumph*, which arrived from Pakhoi and Hoihow on Monday, also reports seeing a quantity of junk wreckage in the Hainan Straits.

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

The Ewo Cotton Spinning & Weaving Co. have issued their report and statement of accounts to 31st October, together with the result of the first six months' working. The mill commenced work on 10th May with 4,000 spindles, which have been increased to 23,500 spindles, averaging 14,249 for 24 weeks and 3 days, the working account at the end of that period showing a credit balance of Tls. 28,696.98. With this, and the interest accumulated on the un-spent portion of the capital, it is proposed to pay a dividend of 3½ per cent., the General Managers waiving their commission, which amounts to rather more than the preliminary expenses, thus giving the Company a very favourable start off.

A Shanghai contemporary publishes the following, apparently a clipping from an American paper:—George B. Dodwell, of Dodwell, Carlill & Co., and Hugh S. Wallace, Vice-President of the Washington and Alaska Steamship Co., have organized the Chilcot Road and Transportation Company, and a contract has been let for a tramway, which is to be in operation on January 1st, for the Klondyke. Construction has been begun on the railroad, which starts from Dyea and runs to Greater Lake. It will be a broad gauge. The tramway has a capacity of 120 tons of freight daily, and as the line will be completed by January, there will be no danger of famine at Dawson this winter. There will be a saving of time to the Klondyke of about thirty days.

The Hankow branch of the Imperial Bank of China was opened with great éclat last week. The occasion was made significant by the presentation of congratulatory scrolls from almost every native bank in that port. It is estimated that, owing to the prospect of the great increase to trade by the building of the Lu-Han Railway, the business population of Hankow has lately been increased by over a hundred new houses from all parts of the empire.—*N. C. Daily News*.

There have been large shipments of silver made to Newchwang lately to serve for the payment by the Russian authorities of the current expenses of the Manchurian railway. The Russians realize the fact that copper cash are difficult to deal with as coins when many payments have to be made, and would welcome a more convenient medium, which is not to be wondered at considering the enormous expense for carriage alone which is involved by the use of copper cash.—*N. C. Daily News*.

We (*Shanghai Daily Press*) are pleased to announce that during the forthcoming winter when the Peiho will be frozen to navigation, one of the Kaiping steamers will be reserved, by arrangement with H.E. Wang Wen-shaon, the Chihli Viceroy, to run regularly between Peitaho and Chefoo for the conveyance of the Imperial Chinese Postal mails. Sir Robert Hart is deserving of the thanks of the public for this arrangement, which will be a saving of many days between Tientsin and Shanghai as compared with the overland courier, the only means hitherto used in carrying mails during the winter.

At Shanghai officer of the Manchu Brigade, General of the Tartar garrison of Foochow, on his way to Peking with a memorial to the Emperor, had the misfortune to somehow stain and discolour the packet which contained the despatch. As this is a grave offence according to Metropolitan etiquette and might lead to the messenger being suspected of having tampered with the packet, the officer in question, who had been living in a native hotel near Smith's Market, committed suicide by cutting his throat on Friday evening, 12th November. He lingered till Saturday morning when he expired, and an inquest was subsequently held by the Chihsien. —*N. C. Daily News*.

#### COMMERCIAL.

##### TEA.

CANTON, 16th November.—Congous.—Total settlements for the past month amount to about 8,300 boxes at prices ranging from Tls. 9½ to 22 per picul. The fourth crop Teas shew more strength than last year, but are somewhat wanting in flavour. There is scarcely any demand for these teas from Australia this season.

Scented Capers.—About 12,000 boxes have found purchase during the period under review at from Tls. 11½ to 26 per picul, bringing the total settlements up to date to about 222,000 Boxes against 236,000 boxes at the same time last season. The market may now be considered closed and the total export for the season will exceed our estimate by 400,000 lbs., the old leaf and common tea, which we did not expect would be shipped, having all been snapped up. So many teas are now practically contracted for and settlements are so falsely reported that we found ourselves, as the season drew to a close, considerably out in our estimate of the total settlements, but the figures above given will we think be found fairly correct. Long Leaf Scented Orange Pekoes.—About 1,500 to 2,000 boxes were contracted for in the fourth crop, almost all of which have now been shipped. The teas are of good quality.

##### EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO GREAT BRITAIN.

	1897-98 lbs.	1896-97 lbs.
Canton and Macao .....	5,154,253	5,603,888
Shanghai and Hankow ...	12,109,523	14,363,552
Foochow .....	11,653,068	12,009,532
Amoy .....	660,741	555,223
	29,667,585	32,532,693

##### EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

	1897-98 lbs.	1896-97 lbs.
Shanghai .....	11,927,615	14,363,552
Amoy .....	11,017,116	14,369,654
Foochow .....	6,771,076	7,827,142
	33,715,797	36,560,348

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO ODESSA.		
1897-98	1896-97	
lb.	lb.	
Shanghai and Hankow... 19,424,560	22,949,123	

EXPORT OF TEA FROM JAPAN TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.		
1897-98	1896-97	
lb.	lb.	
Yokohama... 24,113,099	23,005,420	
Kobe ..... 14,322,202	12,056,362	
	38,435,301	35,061,782

## SILK.

SHANGHAI, 19th November.—(From Messrs. A. R. Burkill & Sons' Circular).—Latest advices from London quote the market firm with unchanged prices; Blue Elephant 10/3, and Gold Kilin at 9/6. Raw Silk.—Very little doing during the past week; Gold Kilin have been settled at Tls. 462½ for four weeks delivery, and a settlement of Blue, Yellow and Green Elephants at Tls. 495, 470, and 460 respectively is reported. About 100 bales Yellow Silks have been settled at prices that shew a decline on last week's quotations. Arrivals, as per Customs Returns, 11th to 17th instant are: 504 bales White, 157 piculs Yellow, and 173 piculs Wild Silks. Re-Reels and Filatures.—We have not heard of any business. The Export of Steam Filatures to date is: to America 2,918 bales, to Continent 2,098 bales, to London 16 bales, and to Japan 5 bales. Waste Silks.—Market quiet; the only business to report is a settlement of Woozei pierced Cocoons 70 per cent. Silk at Tls. 60. About 1,000 pieces Shanting Pongees 25 in. 14/14 yd., 22 oz. have been sold at Tls. 2.80/2.90, and 18½/19 in. 17/18 yd., 22 oz. at Tls. 2.80/3.00.

## EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO EUROPE.

1897-98	1896-97
bales.	bales.
Shanghai ..... 31,505	26,075
Canton ..... 15,245	14,050
Yokohama..... 10,623	4,983
57,373	45,041

## EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO AMERICA.

1897-98	1896-97
bales.	bales.
Shanghai ..... 6,574	2,019
Canton ..... 7,256	1,239
Yokohama ..... 16,857	5,117
30,690	8,375

## CAMPION

HONGKONG, 23rd November.—The weakness continues and prices are again lower. Quotations for Formosa are nominally \$46.75 to \$47.00. Sales, 270 piculs.

## SUGAR.

HONGKONG, 23rd November.—The market has slightly improved and prices are advancing. Quotations are:—

Shekloong, No. 1. White... \$7.28 to	7.30 per pic.
do. 2. White... 6.89 to	6.91 "
Shekloong, No. 1. Brown... \$4.67 to	4.70 "
do. 2. Brown... 4.51 to	4.54 "
Swatow, No. 1. White... 7.20 to	7.23 "
do. 2. White... 6.89 to	6.84 "
Swatow, No. 1. Brown... 4.57 to	4.60 "
do. 2. Brown... 4.42 to	4.45 "
Soochow Sugar Candy.... 11.10 to	11.15 "
Shekloong .....	9.65 to 9.70 "

## MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

Per German steamer *Gerda*, sailed on the 11th November From Hongkong for Suez:—80 packages tea and 7 cases cassia. For Havre:—88 packages tea, 162 bales canes, 2,035 rolls matting, 5 cases lithogr. paper, 7 cases curios, 3 cases silks, 4 cases feathers, 48 cases chinaware, 1 case cassia, and 6 cases baskets. For Havre/Hamburg:—205 packages bamboo scraps, 3 bales broken cassia, and 5 cases cassia. For Havre/Hamburg/London:—40 packages bristles, 676 cases camphor, and 100 packages feathers. For Hamburg:—1,076 bales canes, 512 cases cassia, 60 bales cassia (broken), 2 bales paper, 10 bales fans, 126 packages fire-crackers, 27 packages tea, 41 rolls matting, 255

cases preserves, 7 cases bristles, 50 bales feathers, 100 cases camphor, 20 cases curios, 50 cases gallnuts, and 4 packages sundries.

Per steamer *Saint Ninian*, sailed on the 9th November. For New York:—1,233 rolls matting, 100 boxes nutoil, and 442 packages merchandise.

Per German steamer *Oceana*, sailed on the 9th November. From Hongkong for Havre:—30 cases paper, 62 bales split bamboo, and 13 bales canes. For Havre/Hamburg/London:—100 cases bristles. For Hamburg:—20 bales bristles, 65 packages crackers, 16 cases preserves, 101 boxes camphor, 210 bales rattanware, 215 bales feathers, 105 bales canes, 50 bales rattan savings, 11 cases cassia, 5 packages tea, and 4 packages sundries. For Hamburg/London/Amsterdam and/or Rotterdam:—200 boxes ginger, and 100 casks ginger.

The steamer *Teucer*, sailed on the 12th November. For London:—8,363 boxes tea (175,623 lbs.), 70 cases essential oil, 66 cases blackwoodware, 34 cases chinaware, 3 cases curios, 5 cases cassia lignea, 101 cases cigars, 16 cases camtails, 350 cases and 225 casks gingers, 72 bales waste silk, 4,415 bales hemp, 175 bales canes, 966 rolls matting, 549 bags gum, 135 packages shells, 12 packages sundries, 9 packages effects and 3 packages rugs. For London and/or Manchester:—120 bales waste silk. For Manchester:—224 bales waste silk. For Liverpool:—3 cases blackwoodware, 10 cases cigars, 28 cases ginger and 3 packages sundries. For Glasgow:—9 cases curios, 2 cases and 25 casks ginger, 10 bales strawbaskets and 1 package sundries.

The P. & O. steamer *Sunda*, sailed on the 13th November. For Liverpool:—100 bales matting and 1 bale rope. For London:—16 cases cigars from Manila, 80 bales canes, 53 bales feathers, 3,666 rolls mats & matting, 220 cases chinaware, 10 cases camphorwood trunks, 50 cases blackwoodware, 17 cases curios, 5 cases cigars, 16 cases sundries, 266 cases and 50 casks preserves, 11,281 packages tea (234,801 lbs.). For Milan:—2 cases cassia.

Per German steamer *Marie Jebsen*, sailed on the 17th November. For New York:—21,681 rolls matting, 950 bales and 250 boxes cassia, 20 cases essential oil, 2 cases ylang ylang, 25 casks ginger, 12 boxes human hair, 135 packages preserves, 184 packages merchandise, 17 boxes blackwoodware, 2 cases bamboo chairs, 224 boxes palm leafans and 5 cases paper.

Per steamer *Ancona*, sailed on the 18th November. For London:—4 cases cigars from Manila, 3 cases lacqd. ware, 3 cases birds' feathers, 7 cases cigars, 4 cases silk piece goods, and 20 bales raw silk. For France:—486 bales raw silk and 7 cases silk piece goods. For Milan:—24 bales raw silk.

Per steamer *Menelaus*, sailed on the 19th Nov. For London:—3,496 boxes tea (73,416 lbs.), 4,685 bales hemp, 8 cases cigars, 1 case chinaware, 3,204 cases preserves, 7 packages effects and 11 packages sundries. For London and/or Manchester:—75 bales waste silk. For Liverpool:—2,400 bales hemp and 1 case sundries. For Glasgow:—1 case sundries.

## OPIUM.

HONGKONG, 23rd November.—Bengal.—There has been a further fall in the rate for New Patna, which closes at \$680. New Benares has advanced in value, latest quotation being \$715.

Malwa.—The market has ruled rather quiet. Current quotations are as under:—

New (this yr's) \$760 with allowance of 2 to 3 cts. Old (2/5) \$780 " " 2 to 3 "

(6/10) \$820 " " 2 to 2½ "

Persian.—There has been a small business passing in this drug during the interval. Prices are unchanged, closing quotations being \$490 to \$60 for Oily and \$540 to \$685 for Paper-wrapped drug according to quality.

To-day's stocks are estimated as under:—

New Patna ..... 1,130 chests.

New Benares ..... 320 "

Malwa ..... 260 "

Persian ..... 630 "

## COURSE OF THE HONGKONG OPIUM MARKET.

DATE.	PATNA.		BENARES.		MALWA.	
	New.	Old.	New.	Old.	New.	Old.
1897.	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Nov. 18	690	—	705	—	760	780/820
Nov. 19	690	—	710	—	760	780/820
Nov. 20	687½	—	710	—	760	780/820
Nov. 21	687½	—	715	—	760	780/820
Nov. 22	680	—	715	—	760	780/820
Nov. 23	680	—	715	—	760	780/820

## RICE.

HONGKONG, 23rd November.—A large demand has been experienced from Java and prices are advancing. Quotations are:—

Saigon. Ordinary.....	\$2.78 to 2.82
" Roundl. good quality.....	3.05 to 3.10
" Long .....	3.45 to 3.50
Siam, Field, mill cleaned, No. 2	2.90 to 2.93
" Garden, ,	3.50 to 3.55
" White.....	4.00 to 4.05
" Fine Carg. ....	4.16 to 4.20

## MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG, 23rd November.—Amongst the sales reported are the following:—

YARN AND PIECE GOODS:—Bombay Yarn.—75 bales No. 6 at \$81, 380 bales No. 10 at \$82.50 to \$88. 195 bales No. 12 at \$87.50 to \$90.50, 50 bales No. 16 at \$90.50, 375 bales No. 20 at \$95 to \$100. T-Cloths.—1,125 pieces 7 lbs. Mexican Red Stag at \$2.12½, 300 pieces 8 lbs. Mexican V. V. at \$2.95.—Turkey Reds—100 pieces 4½ lbs. Clock at 2.90. Drills—300 pieces 1½ lbs. Peacock at \$4, 150 pieces 1½ lbs. Cow at \$3.65, 300 pieces 1½ lbs. Dragon at \$4.65. 275 pieces 1½ lbs. Blue Men No. 250 at \$3.57½.

METALS.—Tin—100 slabs Foong Chai at \$38.75.

COTTON YARN.

Bombay—Nos. 10 to 20s. .... 75.60 to 1020

English—Nos. 16 to 24s. .... 116.00 to 1230.

" 22 to 24..... 118.00 to 124,000

" 28 to 32..... 125.00 to 130,000.

" 38 to 42..... 138.00 to 145.0.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

Grey Shirtings—6 lbs. .... 1.75 to 1.85</p

Composition Nails .....	— to —
Japan Copper, Slabs .....	27.50 to —
Tiles .....	27.50 to —
Tin .....	— to —
Tin-Plates .....	6.10 to —
Steel & to & .....	5.75 to —
SUNDRIES .....	per picul.
Quicksilver .....	124.00 to —
Window Glass .....	3.00 to —
Kerosene Oil .....	1.96 to —

SHANGHAI, 18th November.—(From Messrs. Noël, Murray & Co's. Piece Goods Trade Report)—With the present severe stringency in our money market it is naturally impossible to expect much movement in imports, and if relief does not soon come in some shape the outlook for the remainder of the season is a most gloomy one. Native interest during the past week has fluctuated between 22 and 34 per cent. per annum, the stock of Silver in this place having been reduced to much below current requirements, and is having a very detrimental effect on business generally. In addition to this Exchange has been on the rise throughout the week, until it reached 2s. 8d. yesterday; and correspondingly better rates forward, the Banks showing more willingness to entertain business ahead, but a reaction has taken place to-day, in consequence of a decline in Silver at home, and it is almost impossible to get a quotation except for immediate transactions. One or two holders have taken advantage of what enquiry there has been and have met the views of buyers in the matter of price, rather than carry the goods through the Winter, and this has led to considerable resales of similar goods that were in native hands and being held for higher rates. By these means clearances have improved somewhat, though the market has been lowered, the merchants reaping the benefit again. This certainly does not help the situation, except perhaps by widening the margin already existing between the prices current here and what the goods can be replaced at, and in that way future supplies may be curtailed. The Newchwang season is practically over, the last steamer clearing from this on 16th inst. Shippers apparently preferred sending Yarn to Piece goods, the last few steamers taking fairly large quantities of the former. The enquiry for Tientsin is still far from strong, the dearness of money there considerably hampering the trade. It is satisfactory to note that arrangements have been made by the Inspector-General of Customs whereby communication between that port and this will be greatly facilitated during the coming winter, which will no doubt enable us to keep in closer touch with that market through the closed season. The Hankow men are still in the market and are picking up cheap parcels both from first and second hands. The enquiry for before also continues and further purchases of American goods and Yarns have been made.

METALS, 19th November.—(From Messrs. Alex. Bielfeld & Co.'s Report)—The week has been an interesting one, if not good for trade and the most sceptical must admit that there could not have been a worse week for importers than that just closed. Silver is so scarce and there appears to be a famine in the banks of the East. With interest ranging from 10 per cent. asked by the foreign banks on the best securities, to 25 per cent. and 32½ per cent. asked by the Native bankers, it is, of course, impossible to expect that there could be any deliveries. This is the actual state. One of the largest importers is our authority for the statement that during the last three days not a package of cargo has left his godowns. Just before the closing of Newchwang there has invariably been a rush in years gone by, but this year, on the contrary, the only thing that has had to be shipped there to tide the Chinese over the close season appears to be silver, as they report that they are so well stocked from earlier in the year that they will take nothing. And this, together with the lightness of the money market, has resulted in a most dismal week for importers. Stocks are lower than they have been for a long time, but this has not had the usual effect of strengthening prices. Many of the most sanguine have now given up all hope till after the Chinese New Year, and there is much depression in consequence. We make the stocks as follows:—Lead about 400 tons, Horse shoes about 3,600 to 4,000 tons, Nailrods about 2,000 tons, Bar Iron about 1,000 tons, Cobbles about 500 to 600 tons.

EXCHANGE, TUESDAY, 23rd November.	
ON LONDON.—	
Telegraphic Transfer .....	1/11½
Bank Bills, on demand .....	1/11½
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight .....	1/11½
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight .....	1/11½
Credits, at 4 months' sight .....	1/11½
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight .....	1/11½
ON PARIS.—	
Bank Bills, on demand .....	2.45
Credits, at 4 months' sight .....	2.49½
ON GERMANY.—	
On demand .....	1.98½
ON NEW YORK.—	
Bank Bills, on demand .....	47½
Credits, 60 days' sight .....	48½
ON BOMBAY.—	
Telegraphic Transfer .....	151
Bank, on demand .....	151½
ON CALCUTTA.—	
Telegraphic Transfer .....	151
Bank, on demand .....	151½
ON SHANGHAI.—	
Bank, at sight .....	73½
Private, 30 days' sight .....	7½
ON YOKOHAMA.—	
On demand .....	4 % pm.
ON MANILA.—	
On demand .....	5 % pm.
ON SINGAPORE.—	
On demand .....	2 % pm.
SOVEREIGNS BANK'S BUYING RATE .....	
GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael .....	10.08
	53.00

## JOINT STOCK SHARES.

HONGKONG, 23rd November.—The market continues dull and inactive, with no business of any consequence to report.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghais have been on offer at 179 per cent. prem. without leading to business and a point lower would doubtless find sellers. Nationals continue unchanged at \$23 without business.

MARINE INSURANCES.—China Traders have changed hands at the reduced rate of \$70 and more shares are wanted at that rate without finding further sellers. Other stocks under this heading continue quiet at quotations and without business.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Neither Hongkongs nor Chinas have changed hands during the week and the market closes with sellers at \$367½ and \$107.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macaos have continued dull and a few shares have changed hands at \$29½ and \$29; at \$28½, however, there appears to be a small unsatisfied enquiry and the stock closes fairly steady at \$29 for cash. On time some transactions were put through at \$30½ and \$31 for February. Indo-Chinas remain on offer from the North at \$51 with small sales during the week. Douglasses have found further buyers at \$57½ and \$57 and close steady at last rate. China Manilas and China Mutuals continue out of the market at quotations.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars have ruled quiet and neglected with only small sales at \$160 cash and at \$161 for December, closing weak with sellers at \$159. Luzons continue at \$44 without business.

MINING.—Punjoms have been in somewhat better favour and have found buyers at \$3.90, \$4, \$4.10, \$4.25, \$4.50, and \$4.60, closing steady at the last rate. The Secretary of the Company informs me that the date in last report (31st December) for payment of call, &c., is not correct and he has since issued a circular advising the 20th December as the correct date, which should be noted by shareholders. In regard to the transfer of shares in the old Company the Secretary informs me that the matter is entirely at his "option and courtesy." New Balmorals remain unchanged with a small business at quotations. Jelebus have changed hands in small lots at \$2.10, Olivers B's at \$8.10 to \$8.25, and Caledonians at \$3. Raubs have ruled steady at \$23 with small sales and close with sellers. On time shares have changed hands at \$23½ for January and February and at \$23½ for March, and more could be placed on similar terms.

DOCKS, WHARVES, AND GODOWNS.—All stocks under this heading have ruled quiet and neglected and without business. Hongkong and Whampoa Docks continue at 226 per cent.

prem. and Wanchais at \$44½, but Kowloon Wharves have declined to \$61.

LANDS, HOTELS, AND BUILDINGS.—There is but little to report under this heading. A few Hotels have changed hands at \$49 and \$50, closing with sellers at the latter rate. A limited number of West Points and Humphreys have also changed hands at quotations.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Green Islands have been negotiated at \$30½ and \$30½ for old and at \$15½ and \$15½ for new, closing steady at the latter rate. Electrics have changed hands at \$10, and Watsons at \$12½. All Cotton Mills have ruled quiet and neglected at quotations and without any local business. Other stocks under this heading remain unchanged with no business to report. The Two Cotton Co. has published accounts to 31st October. The working account for 24 weeks shows a credit balance of Tls. 41,261.64; with this amount it is proposed to pay the balance of preliminary expenses Tls. 3,957.78, a dividend of 3½ per cent., and to carry forward Tls. 2,303.86 to new account; the General Managers have waived their commission, which on the amended scale amounted to Tls. 4,228.12.

Closing quotations are as follow:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATION.
Banks—		
Hongkong & Shai... China & Japan, pri. Do. ordinary.. Do. deferred.. Natl. Bank of China B. Shares Founders Shares.. Bell's Asbestos E. A... Campbell, Moore & Co. China Sugar ..	\$125 £5 £3 10s. £1 £8 £1 £1 \$10 \$100	179 " prem= nominal nominal £5.5s., buyers
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo... Hongkong .. International .. La'u Kung Mow .. Sochée .. Yahloong .. Dairy Farm Co.. Fenwick & Co., Geo... Green Island Cement.. Do. New Issue .. H. & China Bakery ... Hongkong & C. Gas ... Hongkong Electric .. H. H. L. Tramways .. Hongkong Hotel .. Hongkong Ice .. H. & K. Wharf & G... Hongkong Ropes.... H. & W. Dock ..	Tls. 160 \$20 Tls. 100 Tls. 100 Tls. 500 Tls. 70 \$5 \$25 \$10 \$2 \$50 \$10 \$10 \$100 \$25 \$50 \$50 \$25 \$50 \$50 \$226 p. ct. prem.=	Tls. 111, sellers 17 Tls. 115 Tls. 114 Tls. 560 Tls. 70 \$4.75, buyers \$2.25, buyers \$30, sal. & buyers \$154, sal. & buyers \$33, buyers \$110, buyers \$10, sales \$112, buyers \$50, sellers \$113 \$61, sellers \$170, buyers \$226 p. ct. prem.=
Insurances—		
Canton..... China Fire .. China Traders' .. Hongkong Fire .. North-China .. Straits .. Union .. Yangtsze ..	\$50 \$20 \$25 \$50 £25 \$20 \$25 \$60	\$157½, sal. & sellers \$107, sellers \$70, sales & buyers \$367½, sellers Tls. 148, buyers \$17½, sellers \$230, sellers \$155, sellers
Land and Building—		
H. Land Investment.. Humphreys Estate... Kowloon Land & B. West Point Building Luzon Sugar ..	\$50 \$10 \$30 \$40 \$100	\$75, sellers \$9.50, sales & sellers \$9, sellers \$214, sales \$44
Mining—		
Charbonnages .. Great E. & C. donian Do. Do. Jelebu .. New Balmoral .. Do. Preference ... Oliver's Mines, A... Do. B... Punjom .. Do. Preference... Raubs .. New Amoy Duck .. Stearns Ship Coys.—	Fes. 500 \$5 \$24 \$5 \$1 \$1 \$5 \$24 \$4 \$1 13s. 10d. \$10	\$105, sellers \$6, buyers \$3, sales & sellers \$2.10, buyers \$1.40, sal. & buyers \$1.50, sal. & buyers \$20 \$8.25, sal. & buyers \$1.30 \$224, sellers \$18, sellers
China and Manila ... China Mutual Ord... Do. Preference... Douglas S. S. Co... II. Canton and M... Indo-China S. N. ... Tebrau Planting Co... Do. United Asbestos .. I. o. Wanchai Wareh'se Co. Watson & Co., A. S. ...	\$50 £5 £10 \$50 \$15 £10 \$5 \$2 \$2 \$10 \$37½ \$10	£2 15s. buyers £7 10s. buyers \$5 \$51, sales \$5 \$2, sellers \$16, nominal \$44½, sellers \$124, sales & buyers

J. V. Y. VERNON, Broker.

## TONNAGE.

SHANGHAI, 19th November (from Messrs. Wheelock & Co.'s report.)—Since writing on the 5th instant the only change in rates are those to New York, which have advanced to 27s. 6d., and are likely to remain at that figure unless the London rate is greatly reduced which, from rumours afloat, is highly probable; this latter move would be a very great pity as at the present moment any reduction cannot possibly benefit ship or shippers, but the native merchant will naturally score. We trust, however, before the beginning of next week to hear that any dispute or misunderstanding which now prevails in the Conference has been settled amicably, because as we have already stated a fight of this sort will do nobody any good except to throw more profit into the natives' pocket. For New York *via* Cape.—The *Dromedan* clearsto-day and leaves the berth vacant with no prospect of filling it for some time; shippers who prefer to send their cargo by this route will therefore have to pay Hongkong rates, viz., about 19s. Rates of freight are:—London, by Conference Lines, general cargo 35s.; waste silk 37s. 6d.; tea 35s.; Northern Continental ports, by Conference Lines, general cargo 35s.; waste silk 37s. 6d.; tea 35s.; New York *via* London, by Conference Lines, general cargo 42s. 6d.; waste silk 45s.; tea 42s. 6d.; Baltimore *via* London, by Conference Lines, general cargo 47s. 6d.; waste silk 50s.; tea 47s. 6d.; Konigsberg *via* London, by Conference Lines, general cargo 42s. 6d.; waste silk 45s.; tea 42s. 6d.; Manchester, by Conference Lines, general cargo 47s. 6d.; waste silk 50s.; tea 47s. 6d.; Liverpool, by Conference Lines, general cargo 42s. 6d.; waste silk 45s.; tea 42s. 6d.; Hamburg, by Conference Lines, general cargo 35s.; waste silk 37s. 6d.; tea 35s. Above rates are subject to a deferred return, as per Conference circular. Havre, by Conference Lines, tallow 32s. 6d. net, general cargo 32s. 6d. net, waste silk 35s. net, tea 32s. 6d. net; Genoa, by Conference Lines, tallow 32s. 6d. net, general cargo 32s. 6d. net, waste silk 35s. net, tea 32s. 6d. net; Marseilles, by Conference Lines, tallow 32s. 6d. net, general cargo 32s. 6d. net, waste silk 35s. net, tea 32s. 6d. net. 42s. 6d. per ton of 20 cwt. for above three ports. New York, by sail, 17s.; nominal, no tonnage available. New York *via* Pacific, 1½ gold cents per lb. tea, 3 cents per lb. silk, 89 per ton strawbraid; New York *via* Suez, 27s. 6d. per ton general cargo, 27s. 6d. tea; Boston, 35s. per ton general cargo; Philadelphia, 35s. per ton general cargo. Coast rates.—Moji to Shanghai \$1.25 per ton coal; Nagasaki to Shanghai \$1.25 per ton coal; Newchwang to Kobe 25 cents; Newchwang to southern ports, 28½ cents; Wuhu to Canton, 16 cands.

## VESSELS ON THE FERTH.

For LONDON.—*Sarpedon* (str.), *Manila* (str.), *Antenor* (str.), *Ganges* (str.).  
For SAN FRANCISCO.—*New York*, *China* (str.), *Belgic* (str.).  
For NEW YORK.—*Dromedan*, *Abner Coburn* (str.), *Agenor*, *Cromarty* (str.), *Saint Mark*, *Fulldon Hall* (str.).  
For BREMEN.—*Bayern* (str.).  
For BALTIMORE.—*St. Katherine* (str.).  
For SEATTLE.—*Kinshiu Maru* (str.).  
For PORTLAND.—*Braemar* (str.).  
For AUSTRALIA.—*Omi Maru* (str.), *Airlie* (str.).  
For MARSEILLES.—*Kanagawa Maru* (str.).  
For TACOMA.—*Victoria* (str.).

## SHIPPING.

## ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

## HONGKONG.

November—ARRIVALS.  
18, Kwongsang, British str., from Chinkiang.  
18, Hainan, German str., from Canton.  
18, Zafiro, British str., from Manila.  
18, China, Hawaiian str., from S. Francisco.  
19, Yiksang, British str., from Canton.  
19, Victoria, British str., from Tacoma.  
19, Pakling, British str., from Liverpool.  
19, Woosung, British str., from Canton.  
19, Taisang, British str., from Canton.  
19, Atagosan Maru, Jap. str., from Swatow.  
19, Yashima, Japanese cruiser, from London.  
19, Trieste, Austrian str., from Trieste.  
19, Kiangnan, Chinese str., from Swatow.  
19, Tokio Maru, Jap. str., from Melbourne.  
19, Nanyo Maru, Japanese str., put back.  
19, Moravia, Austrian str., from Otaru.  
19, Kweilin, British str., from Moji.  
19, Taiyick, German str., from Canton.  
19, Comete, French gunboat, from Canton.  
19, Phranang, British str., from Bangkok.  
20, Glenfalloch, British str., from Singapore.  
20, Hoihow, British str., from Canton.  
20, Canton, British str., from Newchwang.  
20, Chiyüen, Chinese str., from Amoy.  
20, Hailoong, British str., from Amoy.

20, Nanyang, German str., from Coast Ports.  
20, Hongkong, French str., from Haiphong.  
20, Krim, Norwegian str., from Canton.  
20, Machew, British str., from Moji.  
21, Ask, Danish str., from Haiphong.  
21, Choysang, British str., from Shanghai.  
21, Singan, British str., from Chinkiang.  
21, Thales, British str., from Taiwanfoo.  
21, Gerard C. Tobey, Amer. bark, from S'pore.  
21, Mathilde, German str., from Haiphong.  
21, Petrarch, German str., from Saigon.  
22, Loyal, German str., from Canton.  
22, Triumph, German str., from Pakhoi.  
22, Hermes, Norw. str., from Hongay.  
22, Taichow, British str., from Bangkok.  
22, Chowta, British str., from Bangkok.  
22, Lothair, Italian bark, from Callao.  
22, Kwanglee, Chinese str., from Shanghai.  
22, Oceanien, French str., from Shanghai.  
22, Taicheong, German str., from Saigon.  
22, Sachem, Amer. bark, from New York.  
22, Valente, British str., from Batoum.  
23, Kwon-sang, British str., from Canton.  
23, Sabine Rickmers, Ger. str., from N'chwang.  
23, Kweilin, British str., from Canton.  
23, Frej, Danish str., from Tonron.  
23, Omi Maru, Japanese str., from Nagasaki.  
23, Salazie, French str., from Marseilles.  
23, Activ, Druish str., from Amoy.

## November—DEPARTURES.

18, Ancona, British str., for Europe.  
18, Doric, British str., for San Francisco.  
18, Hermann, German str., for Saigon.  
18, Kwongsang, British str., for Canton.  
18, Lyemoon, German str., for Shanghai.  
18, Loyal, German str., for Canton.  
18, Memnon, British str., for Kundat.  
18, Menelaus, British str., for London.  
19, Yuensang, British str., for Amoy.  
19, Bellona, German str., for Kobe.  
19, Idzumi Maru, Jap. str., for Kobe.  
19, Independent Ger. str., for Saigon.  
19, Naonyong, British str., for Amoy.  
19, Tordenskjold, Norw. str., for Kobe.  
19, Wongkoi, British str., for Bangkok.  
19, Yiksang, British str., for Swatow.  
20, Astral, British str., for Pulo Sembilan.  
20, Framnes, Norw. str., for Nagasaki.  
20, Wally, German str., for Singapore.  
20, Wuotan, German str., for Saigon.  
20, Hansa, German str., for Kobe.  
20, Fushun, Chinese str., for Shanghai.  
20, Hoihow, British str., for Shanghai.  
20, Kiangnan, Chinese str., for Canton.  
20, Pakling, British str., for Shanghai.  
20, Sendai Maru, Jap. str., for Vladivostock.  
20, Taisang, British str., for Swatow.  
21, Canton, British str., for Canton.  
21, Chiyüen, Chinese str., for Canton.  
21, Hailoong, British str., for Swatow.  
21, Kintnek, British str., for Manila.  
21, Krim, Norwegian str., for Hongay.  
21, Loosok, British str., for Bangkok.  
21, Taiyick, German str., for Saigon.  
21, Woosung, British str., for Yokohama.  
22, Hainan, German str., for Touren.  
22, Kweilin, British str., for Canton.  
22, Choysang, British str., for Canton.  
22, Kwanglee, Chinese str., for Canton.  
22, Hermes, Norw. str., for Canton.  
22, Singan, British str., for Canton.  
22, Hongkong, French str., for Hoihow.  
22, Knivsberg, Ger. str., for Haiphong.  
22, Zafiro, British str., for Manila.  
23, Nanyo Maru, Japanese str., for Saigon.  
23, Glenfalloch, British str., for Swatow.  
23, Naonyang, German str., for Swatow.  
23, Atagosan Maru, Jap. str., for Kobe.  
23, Chelydra, British str., for Colcutta.  
23, Chiyüen, Chinese str., for Shanghai.  
23, Tokio Maru, Jap. str., for Nagasaki.  
23, Trieste, Austrian str., for Shanghai.

## PASSENGER LIST.

## ARRIVED.

Per *China*, from San Francisco, &c., Mrs. A. C. A. St. John, Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Campbell, Miss Rowena Beans, Dr. H. K. Schumaker, Miss Fay St. Claire, Messrs. W. B. Jones, Thos. Halstead, Robt. Clark, E. Forristan, D. Shattuck, L. C. Kimball, Con Chong, and Osmond Tonks, Major J. A. Darling, U.S.A., Mrs. Darling, Miss Hastings, Mrs. J. H. Ransom, Mrs. J. H. Thörndike, Miss S. F. Richardson, Miss Halstead, Mr. and Mrs. W. Hill, Mr. and Mrs. B. Ivison, Miss M. B. Bratton, Mr. and Mrs. J. Case, Miss M. R. Case, Miss L. W. Case.

Per *Victoria*, from Tacoma, Mrs. W. G. Pearce, Mrs. John Panton, Messrs. H. Skott, and W. McAllister, Mr. and Mrs. Doberek, Mr. and Mrs. McCloy and children, Mr. and Mrs. Wirtz and 301 Chinese.

Per *Oceanien*, from Shanghai for Hongkong.—Mr. Beriguy, Mr. and Mrs. H. F. Brady and infant, Miss Rodewald, Miss A. Rodewald, Messrs. Campbell, John Duff, M. Koncoff, T. Hein, Hough, Gordon Lowder, Monnot, Kirde-mann, S. McGiunity, Miss M. J. de Figueiredo, Mr. E. de Figueiredo, Mrs. V. de Figueiredo, Messrs. Domenberg, Ingalf Gatrielson and Komad Gagstad; for Saigon, Mr. Savigny; for Marseilles, Rev. and Mrs. P. W. Doxat, Messrs. F. A. Aglin, S. G. Radcliff, David Allan, and Merecki; from Yokohama for Hongkong, Capt. Gay, Messrs. T. W. Lee, Th. Graham, and F. H. Grant; for Singapore, Messrs. Y. Kato and Nakajiro; for Batavia, Mrs. Togawa Hiro; for Suez, Mr. Elmann; for Marseilles, Captain Million, Messrs. Usui, J. Sato, H. Hamashima, C. J. Keep, Capt. and Mrs. Obsoufieff, Messrs. Girel, P. F. Von Velzen, N. Kensen, J. Stewart, Kessler, and Voitschoffsky; from Kobe for Hongkong, Rev. W. Campbell, Miss T. Abishi, Mrs. S. Abishi, Messrs. Chan Yow Chee, Poo Tay, and Ah Choi; for Singapore, Messrs. Fujita and Ishibuya.

## DEPARTED.

Per *Bayern*, for Shanghai from Bremen, Mr. Max Bohl; from Southampton, Mr. and Mrs. Such, Miss M. M. Johnston, Miss J. M. Robert, Mr. and Mrs. Mitchell, Misses Dobson and Gibbs, Mrs. Hards, Mr. and Mrs. Mills, children and family, Mr. and Mrs. Easton and family, Mr. and Mrs. Hunt, Dr. Wilson and children, Misses Brand (2), Mrs. Wrighton, Mrs. Probst and infant, Mr. W. S. Brown, Mrs. Louder, child and governess, Mrs. Hornby and daughters, Mr. Lo Tsem Hoh, and Miss Ebert; from Genoa, Misses Reid, Fogelssen, Engsham, Svenesen, and Ramsten, Mr. and Mrs. Engelmann, Mr. and Mrs. Bredon and children, Mr. and Mrs. A. Dattan and children, Mrs. H. Heyn, children and governess, Mrs. G. Parida and child, Messrs. T. Schlagowsky, A. Stotzenheim, and Chiko, Mr. and Mrs. Philipp, Messrs. H. Kohlrust and O. Ans; from Colombo, Mr. T. Buse; from Singapore, Mrs. Schlutting; from Hongkong, Messrs. Feldrup, F. Gerrett, and C. W. Wrightson, Dr. Kemple, Revs. Fernandez, S. Perez, L. Alvares, Misses Hunt, Ball, Jose, Fondiger, Harpmann, Chappmann, Harding, Bush, Young, and Hughes Moore.

Per *Ilohenzollern*, for Yokohama from Genoa, Messrs. F. Scriba, T. Takayama, Dr. T. Hidaka, Dr. J. Knorr; from Singapore, Dr. F. Omori.

Per *Doric*, for Shanghai, Miss Lichtenberg, Mr. and Mrs. Barretto, Messrs. W. J. Tyack, R. C. Farbridge, H. I. Bell, E. O. Cumming, S. M. Wallace, T. Wallace, A. E. Lanning, O. V. Lanning, J. Mann, N. E. Moller, N. J. McClue, A. E. Stewart, Major Lombard, and Mr. W. Dickenson; for Nagasaki, Mr. H. Koyanagi; for Kobe, Messrs. N. Nebekraand and M. Patell; for Yokohama, Miss M. Hennessey, Messrs. O. B. Ploetz, W. R. Anderson, and M. Grate; for San Francisco, Messrs. A. P. Hataling and F. C. Hataling.

Per *Ancona*, from Hongkong for Singapore, Messrs. E. W. Neubronner, F. W. Talbot, Whitley, A. B. Hubback, J. R. Hubback, C. Glassford, H. L. Talbot, Mr. and Mrs. Justice Leach, Mr. G. J. Stevens, Capt. A. J. Woodroffe, Mr. J. G. MacTaggart, and Miss Sharp; for Penang, Mr. R. McKenzie; for Bombay, Rev. F. F. X. Soares; for Brindisi, Lieuts. A. J. dos Reis and L. G. d'Almeida Trigosa; for Venice, Mr. T. Wyss; for Ismailia, Messrs. C. Niblett and B. Meneke; for London, Messrs. H. B. Ede, Haggard; G. Copeman, H. J. Reckett, P. B. Reckett, and Miss Reckett, Lieut. O. T. O'K. Webber, R. L., and Staff-Comdr. C. R. H. Robinson; from Yokohama for London, Mr. Osmund Tonks; from Shanghai for Marseilles, Mr. C. S. Champness, and Master Walter North; for London, Mr. Alex. Campbell, Mrs. Campbell and 3 children, Miss H. White, Messrs. C. R. Burkhill and T. Brewer.

Per *Taisang*, for Swatow, Mr. Koo Shun Kam; for Shanghai, Messrs. R. A. Currie and Cattaneo, Miss and Master Palmer.

Printed and Published by D. WARRES SMITH, at 29, Wyndham Street, Victoria, Hongkong.